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# STARS AND STRIPES

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## CRISIS IN IRAQ

# Yazidis tell harrowing tales of torture, mass killings, abduction as they flee Islamic State

Page 4

# Summit will test NATO's vision in wake of new threats

**By JOHN VANDIVER**  
*Stars and Stripes*

The two-day NATO summit that opens Thursday in Wales was supposed to be focused on tying up loose ends in Afghanistan and guarding against complacency as the 28-nation alliance shifted from a war footing.

Things have changed since planning for the high-level conference began in late 2013. Though NATO remains on

**‘This is the most important summit since the end of the Cold War. ... The reputation of NATO is on the line.’**

Jonathan Eval

director of security studies at the Royal United Services Institute

course to end its combat mission in Afghanistan later this year and leaders will still be discussing the alliance's future role there, the security landscape

in NATO's backyard has undergone its most profound shift in 25 years. Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine earlier this year and subsequent

backing of pro-Russia separatists have caught the alliance off guard.

"This is the most important summit since the end of the Cold War. If it flunks this now, it would be difficult to see how it would recover its reputation," said Jonathan Eyal, director of security studies at the Royal United Services Institute. "The reputation of NATO is on the line."

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## INSIDE

## UN: Afghan election is undecided until after NATO summit

## Afghan presidential candidates will not attend the meetings

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I can't get over where they say people are going to be able to keep their seats when they're not doing their jobs. I just don't understand it."

— Retired teacher Pauline Legendre, after voting in Minnesota's Democratic primary last month

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## MILITARY

# Vision: NATO expected to OK rotational presence in Europe

### FROM FRONT PAGE

NATO military commanders have warned that Russia's use of irregular warfare in Ukraine — the arming of separatist militias and sending in secret advisers to incite violence — demands new strategies if such tactics are employed on an alliance territory.

In Wales, allies are expected to agree on plans to establish a quasi-permanent, rotational military presence in eastern and central Europe. Those plans are intended to reassure the Baltic states and Poland, wary NATO members on Russia's periphery, and enhance the alliance's readiness there.

While Poland has lobbied hard for permanent bases, Germany, for one, has argued they would violate NATO's founding documents and would further antagonize Russia.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen downplayed the lack of permanent basing. "What matters is we have what we need for as long as necessary," he said. "Bottom line: You will see more visible NATO presence in the east."

NATO is also expected to act on a plan to position military equipment in the region and to reshape its response force to be better equipped for rapid-reaction missions.

"I think the main achievement in practical value will be this readiness plan that will increase the exercise and maneuver activity of NATO on its eastern flank," said Jan Techau, an expert on European security policy at the European center of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Brussels. "This means there will be NATO troops on the ground at any given time. It sends the signal NATO needs to send on its eastern border."

Yet stopping short of establishing permanent bases leaves the door open to Russia, which NATO must still try to bring back to the negotiating table, Techau said.

Eyal said there are few practical differences between establishing a permanent base and maintaining a constant troop presence through rotational means.

"I think you will find this is a distinction without a difference," he said. "The rotational forces will be more or less permanent."

Germany's backing of a more robust presence in the region has been a welcome, and somewhat



BENJAMIN WRIGHT/AP

Supporters take part in the "No to NATO" protest march Saturday in Newport, south Wales. Around 1,000 protesters have marched through the streets of Newport ahead of this week's NATO summit.

surprising, sign that Europe's major power is serious about potential threats, analysts say.

"The great subplot ahead of the summit is that the Germans, without hesitancy, agreed to join this scheme," Techau said. "The Germans have actually been lauded here in Brussels."

If there is a general consensus that NATO is prepared to take concrete measures, there remain thorny challenges that could take time to sort out.

Gen. Philip Breedlove, NATO's supreme allied commander, recently asserted that should there be an attempt to stir unrest in NATO territory as Russia has in Ukraine, the alliance would demand an Article Five military response. Article Five is the bedrock alliance principle that an attack on one member requires a collective response from all.

"NATO has not been configured to deal with internal security of its member states," Eyal said. "It is not really obvious how we can use international troops to police what are effectively internal security problems. Does it mean NATO troops can fire on citizens of a NATO country? These are all very grave questions."

NATO likely will address those concerns in Wales in a generic way, but transforming Breedlove's assertion into a sustainable policy will require changes within NATO, Eyal said.

Meanwhile, NATO is facing a growing challenge on its southern flank. With fighters from the Islamic State group holding large swaths of territory across Syria and Iraq, allies fear fighters with European and American passports could carry out attacks at home. Turkey, a longtime NATO member, has served as a prime transit route for many of those fighters.

With an estimated 15,000 fighters, including up to 7,000 members who carry European passports, the Islamic State has been described by some as more dangerous than al-Qaida. Several hundred fighters also are believed to be American.

"It's an immediate threat; that is to say, the fighters who may leave the current fight and migrate home," Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, said during an Aug. 21 news conference.

Adm. James Stavridis, NATO's former supreme allied command-

er, said the alliance must step forward with a strategy to deal with the Islamic State.

"The United States cannot be the only actor taking on the challenges, and the war weary American public will simply not permit doing so," Stavridis wrote in a recent essay in Foreign Policy. "It is time for the alliance to craft a strategy and work coherently against what is clearly a clear, present, and real danger to the southern borders of NATO. The alliance must act against the Islamic State collectively as they would against any direct threat."

It's unlikely the NATO summit will generate a collective call to action, but it should offer an indication that the alliance is ready to start grappling with the challenge, experts say. "It is not a sleepy security situation in Europe anymore," Techau said.

"All the governments, including the U.S. and [President Barack] Obama, have been accused of not recognizing that. Can NATO send out a message that the West understands the gravity of the situation? This is the test."

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## MIDEAST

# Afghan leadership crisis foils NATO agenda at summit

By JOSH SMITH  
Stars and Stripes

After nearly 13 years of war in Afghanistan, NATO leaders had hoped at this week's summit in Wales to hail the first democratic transition of power in the country and reaffirm a commitment of military and monetary support beyond the departure of international combat troops at the end of the year.

But the leadership crisis that has ensued from a disputed presidential election and significant fighting between insurgents and Western-trained Afghan forces in many areas of Afghanistan threaten to undermine NATO's message of progress and its future commitment to the country's stability.

While U.S. and NATO officials acknowledge the uncertainties caused by the political uncertainty, they insist that the problems don't detract from the NATO-led coalition's achievements.

In a State Department blog post on Thursday, U.S. Ambassador to NATO Dennis Lute gave a taste of the message NATO will likely embrace: The alliance is ready to help, but only if the Afghans do their part.

"After 12 years, NATO can be proud of its legacy in Afghanistan," he wrote. "And NATO's commitment doesn't end when ISAF's (International Security Assistance Force's) combat mission ends at the end of 2014. We will provide the tools and the training, and the Afghans will provide the courage and the will to succeed. Much remains to be done but Afghanistan's future is in the hands of Afghans, while NATO

stands ready to support."

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said Monday that the conclusion of the electoral process was "vital," but he was upbeat ahead of the summit.

"We have done what we set out to do," he said at news conference in Brussels. "We have denied safe haven to international terrorists. We have built up capable Afghan forces of 350,000 troops and police. So our nations are safer, and Afghanistan is stronger."

But the foundation for that future support remains very much in question because of the presidential election, which has dragged on for months amid allegations of widespread fraud and threats of splinter governments or civil unrest.

At stake at the future presence of international troops, as well as the billions of dollars in foreign aid that Afghanistan's government depends on — among other things, to pay the salaries of the Afghan military and police, who have largely taken over responsibility for countering the Taliban insurgency.

## Troop levels

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has refused to sign a bilateral security agreement that would set the terms for nearly 10,000 American troops to remain in Afghanistan into next year, mostly as advisers and trainers. A similar agreement with NATO has been held up because of its dependence on the American presence.

Both presidential candidates have said they would sign the deal,

An armed police officer is seen Monday through security fencing near the entrance to The Celtic Manor Resort ahead of the upcoming NATO summit in Newport, Wales. The two-day summit begins Thursday.

and NATO leaders had hoped to welcome the new president at the summit. But the impasse over the runoff vote has prevented the inauguration of a new head of state.

"We are approaching the definite deadlines now," NATO's senior civilian representative to Afghanistan, Maurits Jochems, told reporters in Kabul in mid-August. "Soon we will have to take tough decisions because if there isn't a legal basis for our continued presence in Afghanistan, we will have to withdraw everything by the end of the year."

Without the agreement, which would protect American troops from local prosecution, among other issues, U.S. officials say they would be forced to withdraw all their forces. That's a scenario that few officials in or out of Afghanistan favor, but analysts say the possibility looms larger every day the agreement remains unsigned, with the clock ticking toward the end of the year.

Ahmad Majidiyar, an analyst with the American Enterprise Institute, said NATO allies had hoped that a successful election would have enabled a smooth transfer of power. "But the unending political crisis in Kabul and the latest upsurge of Taliban violence across the country make it difficult for NATO leaders to boast about achievements, justify troop withdrawal and plan for a post-2014 support mission in Afghanistan," he said.

Analyst Luke Coffey expressed a similar view in a recent brief for the conservative Heritage Foundation. "NATO should avoid using the summit as a victory lap for its mission in Afghanistan," he wrote

"Recent events in Iraq show what happens when the U.S. fully disengages after combat operations end. The end-of-2014 deadline for Western-led combat operations is not the end of the war but simply a continuation of the (anti-insurgency) campaign led by the Afghans and supported by the international community."

For months now, top officials from NATO and its member countries have been pushing for a resolution to the Afghan election crisis in time for the summit, but even the most optimistic estimates are that an audit of disputed ballots won't be completed until almost mid-September.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry twice flew to Kabul to try to mediate and head off a crisis that some fear could lead to broader fighting and chaos as the international coalition departs at the end of the year. Officials from the U.S. and other donor countries have repeatedly told Afghan leaders that future aid is contingent on a successful and peaceful transfer of political power.

## International aid

Since the U.S. toppled the Taliban regime in 2001, it has contributed nearly \$93 billion in assistance to Afghanistan, of which more than \$56 billion has been spent training, equipping and supporting Afghan security forces, according to a Congressional Research Service report released in July.

During past meetings, including the last NATO summit in Chicago in 2012, international donors assumed that the size of the Afghan

forces would drop from its current level of more than 350,000 to about 228,000 after 2014. On the basis of that assumption, it was determined that about \$4.1 billion per year would be necessary to fund those forces.

While neither NATO nor the Afghan government has confirmed future numbers, it is widely expected that the increasingly bloody fighting will require the government to continue to field about 350,000 troops and police into the foreseeable future, requiring about \$6 billion per year.

According to the CRS report, even the \$4.1 billion amount was considered difficult to raise, with many countries' contributions still unspecified.

It's not clear what specific decisions, if any, NATO leaders will be making at the summit, given the continued uncertainty. NATO officials say they will be sending a signal that they are prepared for a long-term commitment.

Had the election been decided, a new president could have attended the NATO summit, allowing the alliance to focus on plans for future troop levels, as well as providing Afghan officials with an opportunity to push for continued aid.

"It makes it difficult for Afghanistan to advocate for itself at this crucial moment," said Graeme Smith, a Kabul-based analyst for the International Crisis Group. "They are making the case for more aid already, but this really complicates it."

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# Afghan defense minister, not candidates, to attend summit

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's defense minister will attend this week's NATO summit instead of a new president, a blow for the country as it tries to reassure international donors of its political stability.

Defense Minister Bismillah Mohammadi will lead a delegation from the current Afghan government, which will also include the ministers of economy and foreign affairs. Outgoing President Hamid Karzai has declined to attend.

Spekmenes for rival presidential candidates Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani said the two men agreed to remain in Afghanistan to focus on the review of their June 14 runoff and continue talks toward forming a new joint government.

The decision comes after a United Nations announcement last week that results of the review likely wouldn't be ready until Sept. 10. The two-day summit begins Thursday.

"Right now, because it's been postponed, that's why I think they decided not to go,

which is unfortunate," said Hamidullah Farooqi, a Ghani campaign spokesman. Plans have long called

**'Right now, because it's been postponed (the results of the election review), that's why I think they decided not to go.'**

Hamidullah Farooqi  
spokesman for candidate  
Ashraf Ghani

that the country had made progress worthy of future international commitment.

The election process broke down in July amid allegations by Abdullah's campaign of fraud. Secretary of State John Kerry brokered a deal later that month to resolve the crisis in time for an inauguration to take place before the NATO summit, but disagreements between the two candidates and delays in the review have since dogged efforts to find a winner.

Political talks between the two candidates have also stalled over disagreements concerning the authority and scope of new positions in the government. The Kerry deal envisioned the creation of an "opposition leader," to be occupied by the losing candidate, and a "chief executive" filled by a nominee chosen by the losing candidate and approved by the president. After constitutional changes, the chief executive would be succeeded by a prime minister.

Both candidates say they support the presence in the country of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force, and both have vowed to sign agreements allowing for a NATO-led training and advis-

ing force of about 15,000 troops to remain once the coalition's combat role ends this year.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen has warned that time is running out for a deal with a new president, although he has not given a deadline.

The candidate teams had talked about the possibility that the two men would attend the NATO summit together as a sign of unity. They will instead release a joint statement or hold a news conference together, according to Abdullah spokesman Mubej-ur-Rahman Rahimi.

The ramifications of the impasse go beyond the NATO summit, with frustration rising throughout the country. Foreign investment has fallen, retailers commonly complain they are losing business from customers afraid to spend because of the uncertainty and Afghan military commanders say enemy fighters are trying to exploit the situation to sow further doubt in the central government.

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BEN BIRCHALL/AP

## MIDEAST



# A terrifying retreat

Having fled Islamic State militants in Iraq, displaced Yazidis facing uncertain future

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

IRBIL, Iraq — Yazidis who fled Islamic State militants for a safe haven in Kurdish-controlled parts of Iraq face an uncertain future, scarred by the horrors they have witnessed and fearful of returning to villages where the small religious minority has lived for centuries.

At a camp in the Kurdish regional capital of Irbil, Yazidis tell harrowing tales of torture, mass killings and the abduction of women as sex slaves before they fled in August — first to Mount Sinjar and later to Iraqi Kurdistan.

“They (the extremists) took 50 of our neighbors and buried them alive,” said Elias Shingal, a former Iraqi army sergeant and construction worker who arrived in Irbil after two days on Mount Sinjar with his wife and four sons, ages 4 through 14. The family made a white-knuckle drive through Islamic State lines to escape in the night, he said.

Still, Shingal, who said he worked for the U.S. Army in Mosul in 2004, and his family were the lucky ones. His neighbor’s sister was taken as a sex slave, he said. “I will cry if I keep talking about this.”

An estimated 50,000 to 80,000 Yazidis fled to Mount Sinjar, where many were trapped for days without food or water until the U.S. began air-dropping supplies. Kurdish forces, aided by U.S. airstrikes, managed to help most of the trapped Yazidis escape either to Syria or Kurdistan.

“We didn’t know anything about Daash until they came to our village,” Shingal said, referring to the Islamic State by the group’s Arabic acronym. “Why they hate us, we don’t know.”

Much of that hatred likely stems from what Islamic extremists consider heretical Yazidi religious beliefs.

Yazidis, ethnically related to the Kurds, believe in one God who created the world. According to Yazidi beliefs, God then

turned the Earth over to seven “holy beings,” similar to angels in Judeo-Christian traditions. Chief among them was the “Peacock Angel,” who is responsible for both good and evil.

The dual role of the “Peacock Angel” in promoting both good and evil has given the Yazidis an undesired reputation as “devil worshippers,” which has been responsible for waves of genocidal crackdowns against them over the centuries, most recently by the Islamic State group.

The arrival of the Islamic State group appeared to awaken old prejudices among other Sunni Muslims.

Shingal’s wife, Hend, said their Sunni Arab neighbors joined the Islamic State fighters in persecuting the Yazidis.

“They didn’t kill any Christians, but they killed Yazidi, and nobody helped us,” she said, even though Christians and Shiite Muslims have also been victimized by the Islamic State group.

The family was so traumatized that when Iraqi helicopters dropped food and water, they were afraid to eat and drink the humanitarian aid for fear it had been poisoned, she said.

In the Irbil camp and on Mount Sinjar, terrified Yazidis exchanged accounts of their experiences, which only added to their horror.

Elias Shingal said that in one village, the Islamic State group gave Yazidis two options: converting to Islam or death. Some converted, but about 300 who did not were slain, he said.

Yazidi accounts could not be independently verified, but officials of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights say they have received “verified reports” that the Islamic State group is “systematically hunting down members of minority groups ... and giving them the ultimatum, ‘convert or die.’”

The U.N. special rapporteur on violence against women, Rashida Manjoo, also cited “reports of women being executed and un-



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

Above: Elias Shingal, back left, poses with his family at the school in the Ankawa district of Irbil, Iraq. Left: Displaced Yazidis pass time at the school.



Displaced Yazidis do chores. They hope an international peacekeeping force will protect them from the Sunni extremists so they can go home.

verified reports that strongly suggest that hundreds of women and children have been kidnapped — many of the teenagers have been sexually assaulted, and women have been assigned or sold to fighters as ‘malak yamin’ or slaves.”

## Need for protection

The Shingal family is sheltering with other Yazidis in a school in Irbil’s Ankawa district. Classrooms there are filled with mattresses — the desks have been pushed outside. During the day, Yazidi women hand-wash clothes in steel tubs while kids run in the yard and old men play checkers or backgammon.

The 230 Yazidis in the camp are receiving food from aid groups, but there are only two refrigerators in which to store the food.

Fawaz Sadu, 38, a government worker from Bashika, said he escaped the Islamic

State group with his 4-year-old son.

“We have no money,” he said. “We used to have money and jobs, but now we only have what we are wearing.”

The Yazidi want an international peacekeeping force to protect them from the Sunni extremists so that they can go home, Elias Shingal said.

“If we don’t get that, we will have to immigrate to Europe or the (United) States,” he said.

Only a few young men are taking refuge at the school in Ankawa. Some have obtained weapons and are helping Kurdish fighters, known as peshmarga, win back territory from the Islamic State group, Shingal said.

“If the government can’t help us, we will fight,” he said.

Zaynab Olivo contributed to this report.  
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“They (the extremists) took 50 of our neighbors and buried them alive. ... I will cry if I keep talking about this.”

Elias Shingal  
fled Islamic State militants



## MIDEAST

# Aid flows to Iraqi town as siege ends

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Aid began to flow to a small northern Shiite town in Iraq on Monday, a day after security forces backed by Iran-allied Shiite militias and U.S. airstrikes broke a two-month siege by Sunni militants.

Ali al-Bayati, who heads local nongovernmental organization the Turkmen Saving Foundation, said that four trucks loaded with foodstuffs, medicine and fruit had entered the town of Amirli. The aid was sent by the Iraqi government and the Iraqi Red Crescent, he said, adding that soldiers had begun bringing food to families in their houses Sunday night.

"The situation is getting back to normal, but gradually," al-Bayati told The Associated Press. "Some people have come out from their houses and walk in the street. Stores are still closed, but people are happy to see their city secured by Iraqi security forces."

Since early this year, Iraq has faced a growing Sunni insurgency led by the Islamic State, and allied militants have taken over territory in the country's north and west. The crisis is Iraq's worst since the 2011 withdrawal of U.S. troops.

The blitz stunned Iraqi security forces and the military, which melted away and withdrew as the Islamic State in June overran the northern cities of Mosul and



Iraqi security forces and Shiite militiamen chant anti-terrorism slogans Sunday after breaking the siege on 15,000 Shiite Turkmen stranded in the farming community town of Amirli, Iraq, following U.S. airstrikes against Islamic State positions

Tikrit, as well as small towns and villages on their path.

Since then, Iraqi security forces and Shiite militias have been fighting the militants without achieving significant progress on the ground.

On Sunday, the forces managed to break a two-month siege imposed by the militants on Amirli, where about 15,000 Shiite Turkmen were stranded.

Thousands of the Iranian-backed Shiite militias have answered a call by Iraqi-backed Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, to join government forces in the fight against the Sunni insurgents.

The U.S. airstrikes that helped liberate Amirli were the first to hit areas where the Iranian-backed militias fought Sunni militants, possibly outlining an unlikely alliance between the U.S. and Shiite militiamen who once fought American soldiers in Iraq.

It also means the strikes supported forces backed by Iran, whose Revolutionary

Guard military advisers have been guiding Shiite militiamen in artillery attacks on Sunni positions.

Since Aug. 8, the U.S. has carried out at least 120 airstrikes with aircraft and unmanned drones. It has focused on areas bordering the self-ruled northern Kurdish region where Kurdish forces have been fighting the militants.

Also Monday, the United Nations said that at least 1,420 Iraqis were reported killed in violence in August, down from the previous month.

The U.N. mission to Iraq, known as UNAMI, said in its monthly statement that the death toll includes 1,265 civilians and 155 members of Iraq's security forces. It added that 1,370 were wounded, including 1,198 civilians.

July's death toll stood at 1,737 people. In June, 2,400 were killed as Sunni militants swept across the country, the highest figure since at least April 2005.

## UN OKs probe of suspected Islamic State war crimes

By JOHN HEILPRIN  
The Associated Press

GENEVA — The U.N.'s top human rights body on Monday overwhelmingly approved the Iraqi government's request for an investigation into alleged crimes against civilians committed by the Islamic State group in its rampage across northeastern Syria and parts of Iraq.

Diplomats agreed by unanimous consent to approve a nearly \$1.2 million U.N. fact-finding mission at a daylong special session of the 47-nation Human Rights Council about Iraq and the extremist group.

Iraq's request for the U.N. to investigate alleged abuses by the IS was included in a resolution that more broadly condemns the group's severe tactics but also calls on Iraq's government to protect human rights.

Its aim is to provide the Geneva-based council with a report and evidence next March that could shed further light on Iraqi atrocities and could be used as part of any international war crimes prosecution.

The session Monday focused on the threat posed by the militants, who have seized cities, towns and vast tracts of land and have carried out a number of massacres and beheadings.

"We are facing a terrorist monster," Iraqi human rights minister, Mohammed Shih al Sudani, said shortly before the vote.

He said his country needs the world's support because the group "is not an Iraqi phenomenon, it is a transnational organization that is an imminent danger for all countries of the world."



al-Sudani

## Germany is sending arms to Iraqi Kurds, citing a threat to security

Bloomberg News

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel's government is sending 16,000 assault rifles, anti-tank weapons and armored vehicles to Iraqi Kurds fighting Islamic State militants, lifting a German taboo on shipments into war zones.

The hardware, which also includes pistols, trucks and grenades, will equip 4,000 soldiers of the Kurdish regional government in Iraq, Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said at a news conference in Berlin late Sunday after leaders of Merkel's coalition met to decide on the shipments. The equipment will be delivered in three batches in September, she said.

"If we don't succeed in pushing Islamic State back, the Middle East's fragile order would be shaken to the core and set the entire region ablaze," German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said at the joint news conference.

"It's not an easy decision for us, but it's the right decision in a situation that's exceptional in every way."

International efforts to beat back Islamic State gained urgency last month after the extremists beheaded U.S. journalist James Foley. France said in August it's arming Iraqi Kurds, and Italy cleared the way for military aid. The U.K. wants to look at what role NATO can take in supplying the Kurds with weapons, a government official said Friday.

U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron and Merkel planned to address their respective parliaments on Iraq on Monday. U.S. lawmakers on Sunday talk shows urged President Barack Obama to devise a more aggressive strategy against the Islamists. The U.S. has flown more than 100 airstrikes against Islamic State positions since the campaign began Aug. 8.

Germany's shipments, which include Heckler & Koch rifles and MILAN anti-tank weapons, are

being coordinated with its allies, von der Leyen said. Germany's security is at stake, Steinmeier said.

Cameron, speaking in London on Friday after the U.K. raised the terrorism threat to "Severe," the second-highest level, said Islamic State in Iraq posed "a greater threat to our security than we have seen before."

The battle against Islamist extremism is a "generational struggle" which will probably last decades, he said.

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## NATION

# Surly electorate poised in 2014 to 'keep the bums in'

By DONNA CASSATA  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A surly electorate that holds Congress in even lower regard than unpopular President Barack Obama is willing to "keep the bums in," with at least 365 incumbents in the 435-member House and 18 of 28 senators on a glide path to another term when ballots are counted Nov. 4.

With less than 10 weeks to the elections, Republicans and Democrats who assess this fall's midterm contests say the power of incumbency — the decennial process of reconfiguring congressional maps and hefty fundraising — trumps the sour public mood and antipathy toward gridlocked Washington.

"Despite the incredibly low polling, favorable ratings for Congress, it's still an incumbent's world," said Sheila Krumholz, executive director of the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics that tracks political money.

That leaves many voters angry, not only with the political reality, but their inability to change it.

"I can't get over where they say people are going to be able to keep their seats when they're not doing their jobs. I just don't understand it," retired teacher Pauline Legendre said after voting in Minnesota's Democratic primary last month.

The voters' disgust is palpable, evident in blistering comments at summertime town halls and middling percentages for incumbents in primaries. Yet no sitting senator has lost and only three congressmen got the primary boot. Come Election Day, only a fraction of the electorate will be motivated enough to vote — if history is any guide.

Congressional hopefuls are whipsawed by the two dynamics.

"It's going to be a challenge for any candidate running for Congress to suggest that they have all the answers or that somehow there's something about them that's so inspiring" that voters are

going to forget "how disenfranchised or disaffected they are with government at the federal level," said Ryan Costello, a Republican seeking an open House seat in southeast Pennsylvania where just 12 percent of GOP voters turned out in the May primary.

Still, the candidates press ahead, with Republicans laser-focused on gaining the six seats necessary to grab the Senate majority and control Congress for the remainder of Obama's presidency. Five Democratic retirements give the GOP a clear shot to capture control. So do races in conservative-leaning states such as Louisiana, North Carolina and Arkansas, where white Southern Democrats are nearly extinct.

The GOP figures it's halfway to its goal, with a solid advantage in open contests in South Dakota, West Virginia and Montana. Republicans are optimistic about the open seat in Iowa, less so about Michigan, and energized by their prospects in Colorado and Alaska. If a GOP wave materializes, it could be in the Senate.

In the House, Republicans are expected to pad their majority — currently 233-199 with three vacancies — with the goal of matching or surpassing the 246 seats the GOP held from 1947 to 1949.

Fueling the battle is what's expected to be a record-breaking flow of campaign cash. The parties' campaign committees and their allied outside groups are spending at a rate certain to exceed the \$3.6 billion price tag of the 2010 midterm elections.

House Republicans who saw a wave election in January 2010 — the year Democrats lost 63 seats — don't expect a comparable sweep in 2014 simply because Republicans reduced the number of opportunities. On that, Democrats agree, though an Obama decision on immigration could change the dynamic.

On the cusp of the fall election season, fewer than two dozen House Democrats and Republicans are in real jeopardy in November.



JEFFREY COLLINS/AP

Texas Gov. Rick Perry speaks at a fundraiser for the South Carolina Republican Party on Wednesday in Columbia, S.C.

# Texas' Perry: Disparaging tweet was unauthorized

By PAUL J. WEBER  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A tweet from Republican Texas Gov. Rick Perry's verified account on Sunday night included a disparaging image of the Democratic district attorney who is at the center of his criminal indictment on charges of abuse of power. The tweet was later deleted, followed by another from Perry's account that disavowed the post.

"A tweet just went out from my account that was unauthorized. I do not condone the tweet and I have taken it down," the later post said.

Perry aides did not immediately return messages seeking comment. Although the tweets were sent from Perry's verified account, it was unclear who does the actual posting for the feed.

The earlier tweet posted an

unflattering mock image of Travis County District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg, who was convicted of drunken driving in April 2013. Perry vetoed funds to her office when she refused to resign, which led to a grand jury in Austin this month indicting Perry — who is a potential 2016 presidential candidate.

The caption on the tweet reads: "I don't always drive drunk at 3x the legal blood alcohol limit... but when I do, I indict Gov. Perry for calling me out about it. I am the most drunk Democrat in Texas."

Lehmberg's office did not lead the grand jury investigation against Perry. It was handled by Michael McCrum, a San Antonio-based special prosecutor who was assigned by a Republican judge.

Perry has pleaded not guilty and has called the charges a political ploy. His high-powered legal team has asked the judge

overseeing the case to dismiss the indictment, claiming that the law being used to prosecute the longest-serving governor in Texas history is unconstitutional and vague.

Perry cut off \$7.5 million in state funds to the state's Public Integrity Unit — which is based in Travis County and prosecutes public corruption in Texas — when Lehmberg refused to resign. That veto drew a formal complaint from a left-leaning watchdog group.

Perry's verified account is updated frequently — and sometimes famously. After finishing in fifth place in the Iowa caucuses during his 2012 presidential campaign, Perry addressed speculation that he might call it quits with a tweet of a photo of himself jogging near a lake, and the words, "Here we come South Carolina!"

# Judge blocks enforcement of new Louisiana abortion law

By JANET McCONAUGHEY  
The Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — A federal judge has temporarily blocked Louisiana from enforcing its restrictive new abortion law. Lawyers and advocates appeared to disagree about whether the judge's order affects doctors at all five abortion clinics in the state or only those at three clinics whose lawsuit challenges the measure.

U.S. District Judge John deGravelles wrote that authorities

cannot enforce the law until he holds a hearing on whether an order to block it is needed while the case remains in court.

The law requires doctors who perform abortions to have admitting privileges to a hospital within 30 miles of their clinics. The lawsuit claims doctors haven't had enough time to obtain the privileges and the law likely would close all five clinics.

"Today's ruling ensures Louisiana women are safe from an understanding law that seeks to strip them of their health and rights,"

Nancy Northup, president and CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, one of the groups representing two northwest Louisiana clinics, one in suburban New Orleans, and doctors at those clinics, said in a news release.

But Kyle Duncan, representing state Health and Hospitals Secretary Kathy Kliebert, said in emails that it covers only the plaintiffs — not clinics in New Orleans and Baton Rouge nor the doctors who work at those clinics. DeGravelles' order states that "any enforcement" of the law is

forbidden until a hearing. However, his next sentences state that the law will go into effect but plaintiffs cannot be penalized for practicing without admitting privileges during this period while their applications are still pending.

The judge said he will call a status conference within 30 days to check on the progress of the plaintiffs' applications and to schedule a hearing to consider a request for an order blocking the law while the case is in court.

For now, the doctors' risk of \$4,000 fines and losing their li-

censes outweighs any possible injury to the state from keeping the status quo, he wrote. That's especially true, he wrote, because Louisiana's health secretary has said she doesn't plan to enforce the law against any doctors who don't yet have final decisions on their hospital applications.

However, deGravelles noted, neither Kliebert nor the head of the Board of Medical Examiners promised that they would never prosecute those doctors later for violations that occurred starting Monday.



## NATION

## Ban on import of AK-47s sets off US buying frenzy

BY MICHAEL S. ROSENWALD  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Thirty-six hours after the Obama administration banned the importation of the classic brand of AK-47 assault rifles as part of sanctions against Russia, a Maryland dealer specializing in the weapon took stock of its inventory.

There was nothing left.

Laboring almost nonstop, workers at Atlantic Firearms in Bishopville, Md., had shipped hundreds of Russian-made AK-47s — an assault rifle prized by both consumers and despots — as buyers wiped out gun dealers' inventories around the country. The frenzy was brought on in part by a suspicion among some gun owners that the Russia-Ukraine conflict was a back-door excuse to ban guns many Democrats don't like. Some customers bought eight to 10 rifles for nearly \$1,000 each or more, stockpiling them as investments.

"The gun community moved very, very quickly," said Blaine Bunting, president of Atlantic Firearms. "I don't see this ban going away."

The AK-47 buying frenzy presents yet another example of the paradoxical consequence of try-

ing to limit gun sales: booming demand. During the debate over the measure commonly called the Brady Bill in the 1990s, gun purchases skyrocketed. When the Democrats took control of Congress in 2006, sales soared again. When President Barack Obama tried to pass sweeping gun control laws after the 2012 Sandy Hook School shooting, some dealers even sold out of ammunition.

"The great irony here is that the threat of regulation has the perverse effect of stimulating sales, and not just by a little," said Philip Cook, a Duke University gun researcher and author of "The Gun Debate: What Everyone Needs to Know." "The numbers are impressive. You have millions of extra sales."

For gun dealers, the threat of increased regulations is frequently seen as a form of economic stimulus. Some display and sell posters declaring Obama the gun salesman of the year — or century. But the surge in sales troubles advocates of gun control, who fear some buyers will flip their purchases in private sales at gun shows or through online auction sites, where background checks aren't required.



BONNIE JO MOUNT/The Washington Post

Tracy Earlenbaugh, of TW Firearms in Leesburg, Va., displays a Russian AK-47 assault rifle.

## Divisive Arab mascot retired

The Associated Press

THERMAL, Calif. — A California high school has retired a controversial Arab mascot.

The bearded, snarling mascot with a large hooked nose who wears a head scarf did not appear at Coachella Valley High School's season opening football game on Friday. A belly-dancing genie that often appears with the mascot during halftime was also retired.

The Desert Sun reported that the change was among the steps the Coachella Valley Unified School District is taking to give the mascot a makeover.

The Arab mascot has existed since the 1920s to recognize the desert region's reliance on date farming, a traditionally Middle Eastern crop. Over the years, the mascot evolved from a turban-wearing horseman carrying a lance to a standing figure with a scowl and a traditional head

covering.

It came under fire last November when the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee sent a letter to the school district complaining that the mascot was stereotypical.

The district refused to change the school's "Arabs" nickname, but it agreed to redesign the Arab face on the school logo.

The district submitted five designs to the civil rights group last spring, and the group has favored a design depicting a stoic man with a neatly trimmed beard. His face is partially covered in shadow, and he's wearing a white headscarf emblazoned with the high school's initial, "CV."

"We passed it around to experts and community members," committee spokesman Abed Ayoub said. "We took our time to get the opinion of that logo, and it was overwhelmingly positive."



CHARLES SYKES, INVISION/AP

Concertgoers leave the Made in America Festival in Philadelphia on Sunday after the grounds were evacuated due to thunderstorms.

## Thunderstorms hit northeast

BY KATHY MATHESON  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Severe thunderstorms across the northeastern U.S. delayed flights, halted outdoor sports events and concerts in New York and Philadelphia and sent people scurrying from a beach after three men were struck by lightning.

The men were injured at a beach in New York City's Bronx borough Sunday evening as bad storms rolled through, the Fire Department of New York said. The men were being treated at a hospital, and the extent of their injuries was unknown.

Torrential rain, thunder and lightning interrupted the Labor Day holiday weekend celebrations in Philadelphia, where a music concert was evacuated for safety reasons.

Besides temporarily stopping the Made in America concert, the bad weather also forced the early end to the Electric Zoo musical festival on an island in New York's East River and halted play for the first time at this year's U.S. Open tennis tournament in Queens, N.Y.

Former champion Maria Sharapova took notice of the

weather warnings as she answered questions about her loss to 10th-seeded Caroline Wozniacki just before the storm hit.

"Is that the flood warning? Darn it. If I was only there a little longer," she said to laughter.

The National Weather Service said wind damage and flash flooding hit East Orange, N.J., and large tree branches were down on Long Island, N.Y.

More than 30 flights in and out of the New York metro area were delayed, and at least one was canceled because of the severe weather, according to the flight tracking website FlightAware. Storms also disrupted air travel in Philadelphia and the Baltimore-Washington region.

Flights leaving Newark Liberty in New Jersey and Washington Dulles in Virginia were held up nearly three hours, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

In the Midwest, storms began sweeping across Iowa and Nebraska late Sunday, with heavy rains causing some flooding and wind gusts affecting power lines and snapping tree limbs.

The National Weather Service said Iowa and Nebraska saw winds of up to 90 mph that caused significant damage.



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

Tennis fans exit the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center Sunday in New York as a heavy rain suspends play of the 2014 U.S. Open tennis tournament.

## Accidental heroin overdoses skyrocket in NYC

The Washington Post

The number of people who died from unintentional heroin overdoses in New York City last year was the highest in a decade, according to data released last week by the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

In New York, where the overall rate of drug overdose deaths has dramatically risen since 2010, a national problem is playing out on the city's streets. The number

of overdoses involving heroin accounted for more than half of the city's overdoses last year; more than three-quarters of the overdoses involved an opioid.

The data comes amid a pair of national epidemics operating in tandem. A surge in heroin use nationwide has been accompanied by a much larger opioid epidemic, with drugs such as oxycodone and hydrocodone responsible for the majority of unintentional over-

doses involving pharmaceutical drugs.

The number of heroin overdose deaths more than doubled last year since 2010, from 209 to 420.

Most heroin overdoses occurred in the Bronx and Staten Island, but the situation was also alarming in Queens, where the overdose rate more than doubled last year.

As has been the case for years, the rate of overdoses is the highest among white residents.

# UKRAINE UNREST



PHOTOS BY SERGEI GRITS/AP

Alexander Bespalko, left, and his son Denis loosen parts from a burned-out Ukrainian armored personnel carrier in the village of Hrabske, eastern Ukraine, on Sunday. "This heap of junk is scrap that I can make some money from," he said. "Everything is destroyed and there is no work."

## Battle-hit village picks up the pieces

By PETER LEONARD  
The Associated Press

HRABSKIE, Ukraine — Alexander Bespalko and his son lifted parts from a burned-out Ukrainian armored personnel carrier in a village ravaged by the past week's battles. With homes destroyed and livelihoods lost, residents in the village of Hrabske must scrape for a living and at least scrap metal is reliable — with wrecked tanks, cars and APCs everywhere.

"My home was leveled and I need to rebuild it somehow," Bespalko said Sunday, in between giving instructions to 9-year-old Denis, who was clambering hammer in hand over the metal carcass.

"This heap of junk is scrap that I can make some money from," he said. "Everything is destroyed and there is no work."

Hrabske and the nearby strategic town of Ilovaysk have suffered badly from recent clashes as separatist Russian forces relentlessly chip away at areas under government control. Few streets are free of the scars of artillery attacks. More than half the schools across rebel-held areas stayed closed Monday on the traditional first day of school, so Denis was free to continue on scrap collection duty.

Ukrainian forces made notable strides after fighting broke out in April, but that has been almost all reversed in a major recent rebel counteroffensive. Kiev and Western countries allege Russia has sent in troops and equipment to bolster the pro-Russia rebels, but Moscow firmly denies it and rejects suggestions that it can wield influence over the rebels.

The bitter fight for Ilovaysk and surrounding areas between Ukrainian government troops and pro-Russian separatist fighters lasted the best part of a month. On Saturday, the government conceded inevitable defeat as its armed forces were surrounded completely and came under relentless fire.

The rebel force makes no secret of its international character, and



Pro-Russian rebels take ammo from a local resident who found them in his backyard in Hrabske.

includes many Russians along with Spaniards, French and Serbians. In Hrabske, one van carrying rebel fighters was draped with a flag of Russia's Republic of Chechnya.

When shells began falling on the village, those with nowhere else to flee took refuge in a monastery a couple of miles further down the road. On Sunday, as rebels consolidated their control in Hrabske and Ilovaysk, residents started returning to inspect what remained of their homes, if anything.

At some homes, dogs excitedly emerged to greet their long-departed masters.

Tatyana, an emergency services employee who fled to the relative safety of the main rebel-held city of Donetsk, was greeted by her 7-year-old mongrel, Black, as she returned to her house for the first time in 20 days.

She counted herself lucky to find some tomatoes still reddening on the vine and grapes just ripening. But her peaches, peppers and eggplants were ruined.

Other houses in her street were smashed by artillery.

"You see the crater in my neighbor's house," said Tatyana, who asked for her surname not to be published because she is not allowed by emergency services to speak to the press. "When that happened, we quickly packed our bags and left."

As she spoke, the rumble of shelling could be heard in the remote distance.

Hrabske was occupied by government troops and became a base for firing shells at Ilovaysk, whose center lies beyond a railway crossing that served as a dividing line between the warring sides.

While there were already signs of life returning to Hrabske, obtaining basic necessities will be an uphill climb for the foreseeable future. One of the village's two shops has been reduced to a scorched shell. In a poultry farm hit by mortar, chickens aimlessly roamed the yard. Many others lay dead after weeks of not being fed, and the stink from their rotting bodies wafted across the yard.

The farm once provided work for the village's residents, including Bespalko. Some arrived instead Sunday to stuff as many chickens as would fit into a sack, later to be slaughtered for food.

The only real authority in the city is wielded by the groups of armed rebel fighters roaming the streets and countryside. At the separatist headquarters, situated in the local police station, the town's rebel commander, who went by the nom de guerre Givi, sat in an office before a cup to tea as fighters flitted in and out.

"This is my town," he said. "If you want to do anything here, you have to go through me."

# Rebels back off demand for full independence

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV  
AND JIM HEINTZ  
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Pro-Russian rebels softened their demand for full independence Monday, saying they would respect Ukraine's sovereignty in exchange for autonomy — a shift that reflects Moscow's desire to strike a deal at a new round of peace talks.

The insurgents' platform, released at the start of Monday's negotiations in Minsk, the Belarusian capital, represented a significant change in their vision for the future of Ukraine's eastern, mainly Russian-speaking region.

It remains unclear, however, whether the talks can reach a compromise amid the brutal fighting that has continued in eastern Ukraine. On Monday, the rebels pushed Ukrainian government forces from an airport near Luhansk, the second-largest rebel-held city, the latest in a series of military gains.

The peace talks in Minsk follow last week's meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Ukrainian counterpart, Petro Poroshenko.

Similar talks earlier this summer produced no visible results.

Unlike the previous rounds, this time rebels said in a statement carried by Russia's state-run RIA Novosti news agency that they are willing to discuss "the preservation of the united economic, cultural and political space of Ukraine." In return, they demanded a comprehensive amnesty and broad local powers that would include being able to appoint their own local law enforcement officials.

This deal is only for eastern Ukraine. There are no negotiations on handing back Crimea, the peninsula that Russia annexed in March, a move that cost Ukraine several ports, half its coastline and untold billions in Black Sea oil and mineral rights.

The talks lasted for several hours Monday and were adjourned until Friday.

The rebels' more moderate negotiating platform appeared to reflect Putin's desire to make a deal that would allow Russia to avoid more punitive Western sanctions while preserving a significant degree of leverage over its neighbor.

Earlier, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov rejected claims by the Ukrainian government, NATO and Western nations that Russia has already sent troops, artillery and tanks across Ukraine's southeast border to reinforce the separatists.

Despite the Russian denials, Ukrainian National Security



AP

Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk speaks Monday near Gdansk.

## Poland PM likens Ukraine to WWII

GDANSK, Poland — The outbreak of World War II 75 years ago shows why Europe must put an end to the war in Ukraine now, Poland's prime minister said Monday.

Prime Minister Donald Tusk, chosen by EU leaders to be the next president of the European Council, spoke at the Westerplatte peninsula on the Baltic coast, where some of the first shots of World War II were fired on Sept. 1, 1939, by an attacking Nazi warship. Two weeks later Soviet troops invaded from the east, acting on a Moscow deal with Germany to carve up Poland.

More than five years of brutal, global war followed, taking the lives of tens of millions of people.

"Today, looking at the tragedy of Ukraine, at war — because we should use this word — in the east of our continent, we know that September 1939 must not be repeated," Tusk said.

He said the lesson that Europe should draw from its past "must not be a lesson of naive optimism" because the security of the continent requires "courage, imagination and resolute action."

From The Associated Press

Council spokesman Col. Andriy Lysenko said Monday that "not less than four battalions and tactical groups of the Russian armed forces are active in Ukraine." A battalion consists of about 400 soldiers.



## WORLD

# Libya's parliament votes to form 'crisis government'

The Associated Press

CAIRO — Libya's elected parliament on Monday tasked the recently resigned prime minister with forming a new government as the outgoing Cabinet acknowledged it had lost control of the capital to Islamist-allied militias.

The official news agency said the parliament convening in Tobruk voted Monday to name Abdullah al-Thinni the new head of the Cabinet, of which seven ministries would form a "crisis government." The agency didn't elaborate.

Al-Thinni resigned Wednesday, saying he hoped a new government would be more inclusive. Al-Thinni's government was at odds with an alliance of Islamist militants who took over the capital, Tripoli, from rival groups after weeks of fighting. Dozens were killed and thousands fled the capital including the govern-

ment, which set up a base in the east, as well as residents and foreign diplomats.

In a statement late Sunday, the outgoing government of al-Thinni said it had lost control of almost all state institutions and government offices to armed militias. The statement said some of those buildings were "occupied," others "stormed," and staff and employees had been prevented from entering.

"It has become dangerous for (employees) to get to their places without the risk of being detained or killed especially after some of the armed groups issued direct threats against them, attacked and torched their homes and terrorized their families," the statement said.

The Tripoli house of al-Thinni was attacked and torched. His government has resided in the east, in Bayda, following the outbreak of fighting.

The militias in control of the capital, operating under an umbrella group called the Dawn of Libya, have also taken control of the U.S. Embassy compound in the capital, a week after they drove out rival militias. A State Department official said the compound "remains secure."

Libya's divisions are rooted in rivalries between Islamists and non-Islamists, as well as powerful tribal and regional allegiances between groups who quickly filled the power vacuum after the 2011 fall of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Successive transitional governments have failed to control the militias.

The outgoing parliament, led by Islamists, has refused to recognize the newly elected body that convenes in the east. It has also separately named a new prime minister to form a "national salvation government."

## Militants frolic at empty US compound

By LAURA KING  
AND NABIH BULO  
Los Angeles Times

CAIRO — It was, by all appearances, a jihadists' pool party — staged at an abandoned American diplomatic compound in the Libyan capital.

In video footage posted online Sunday, a group of laughing, whooping men identified as members of an Islamist-linked group — some in black paramilitary-style outfits, some in summertime civilian wear — clowned, mugged for the camera and did swan dives off a second-floor balcony into a swimming pool said to be in an annex of the embassy in Tripoli, which was evacuated last month amid heavy fighting.

The images were emblematic of Libya in free fall, with the oil-rich North African nation spiraling into all-out civil war more than three years after the toppling of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. And the spectacle of a breached diplomatic compound — even one empty of any American personnel — stirred memories of the Benghazi attack nearly two years ago that killed then-ambassador J. Christopher Stevens.

The current U.S. ambassador to Libya, Deborah Jones, who has been overseeing American diplomatic activity from Malta, said on Twitter that the video footage appeared to have been shot in a residential compound at the embassy.

A commander for an Islamist faction called Libyan Dawn told The Associated Press on Sunday that the militia had "secured" the residential annex. Witnesses cited by the news agency said the compound did not appear to have been ransacked or looted, though



In this photo taken during a tour offered to journalists by the Dawn of Libya militia Sunday, damage from weeks of violence is seen in the front yard of a building at the U.S. Embassy compound, which the militants say they now control, in Tripoli, Libya.

some windows were broken, and it quoted the commander as urging foreign envoys to return.

It is not clear when the video was shot.

The American diplomatic staff was spirited out of Tripoli after fighting — centered on the capital's now-wrecked international airport — came too close to the embassy grounds. In what was described as an orderly departure, the staffers were taken overland to neighboring Tunisia on July 26, under the escort of U.S. Marines backed by air power and naval vessels offshore.

The State Department said at the time that the closing of the U.S. Embassy was a suspension of an American diplomatic presence rather than an end. Most other diplomatic installations

in Tripoli, those of neighboring Arab countries as well as Western nations, have also been closed.

The video shows men milling poolside in front of a stately, looking whitewashed building with black wrought-iron railings. Gleeful shouts ring out as some leap fully clothed into the blue but slightly cloudy water. At one point, the cameraman says, in Arabic, "This is the U.S. Embassy!"

Libyan armed groups, once allied in the fight against Gadhafi, turned on one another after toppling and killing him in 2011. In June of this year, the Islamists suffered harsh setbacks in parliamentary elections, and the conflict between them and other nationalist and tribal militias escalated in recent months into full-scale armed conflict.

## British PM proposes new anti-terrorism laws

LONDON — Britain's prime minister is expected to expand powers to combat terrorism in hopes of preventing attacks by Islamist militants returning from terrorist training in the Middle East.

David Cameron was unveiling a new package of legislation in the House of Commons on Monday. Talks with the Liberal Democrats, his partners in the governing coalition, stretched into late morning in hopes of finalizing a deal. Measures under consideration include powers to take away passports from British citizens, though senior members of the Lib Dems have warned such measures may be illegal — even if they are temporary.

The moves come after Cameron pledged to plug gaps in Britain's defenses to combat terrorism, describing the extremist threat posed by the Islamic State

group as being more dangerous than even that of al-Qaida.

## 3 children killed in Chinese school attack

BEIJING — A 40-year-old man stabbed students and teachers with a fruit knife at an elementary school in central China on Monday, killing three children and injuring six other people before jumping to his death, officials said.

The attack on the first day after summer break injured five other children and one teacher at Dongfang primary school in Hubei province, they said.

Two students were hospitalized with serious injuries, officials said. The assailant jumped to his death from a fourth-floor window after the attack, they said.

China has suffered a series of attacks on kindergartens and grade schools. The culprits often are identified as mentally ill or as being angry at society.

From The Associated Press

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## WORLD

# Rebels, Syrian forces clash in Golan Heights

By RYAN LUCAS  
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian rebels clashed with government troops on Monday in the Golan Heights, where al-Qaida-linked insurgents abducted U.N. peacekeepers last week, activists said.

The fighting was focused around the town of Hamidiyah in Quneitra province near the disputed frontier with Israel, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The Observatory said there were casualties on both sides but did not have exact figures.

Syria's state news agency said the military killed "many terrorists" and destroyed a heavy machine gun. The government refers to those trying to oust President Bashar Assad as terrorists.

Clashes have raged in the area since Syrian rebels captured a border crossing near the abandoned town of Quneitra on Wednesday. One day later, fighters from al-Qaida's Syrian branch, the Nusra Front, abducted 45 Fijian peacekeepers and surrounded two Filipino contingents serving in the U.N. mission that monitors the buffer zone between Israel and Syria.

The Filipino troops escaped over the weekend, while the Fijians are still being held by the Nusra Front. The United Nations

says it is seeking the Fijians' immediate and unconditional release. It says it has not established where the peacekeepers are being held.

The rebels' targeting of the U.N. mission has touched off criticism among some nations contributing troops to the peacekeeping force about how the Golan Heights operation functions. Ireland, which contributes a 130-member armored rapid response unit to the U.N. mission, warned Monday it would not replace its troops next month if U.N. leaders in New York do not agree on strengthening the force's firepower, command and control, and rules of engagement.

"I've made it very clear that I'm not going to continue to commit Irish troops to this mission unless there's a very fundamental review of how it's going to operate," Irish Defense Minister Simon Covey told RTE state radio in Dublin. "Clearly this is no longer a demilitarized zone."

He said Irish troops in armored vehicles exchanged fire with rebels Saturday as they rescued Filipino troops from one of the border posts. The Indian-led, 1,250-member force includes soldiers from Fiji, India, Nepal, the Philippines and the Netherlands.

Covey said the Irish unit remained on standby for a potential rescue of the Fijian troops.



SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/AP

Smoke caused by fighting in Syria is seen from the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights, close to the border with Syria, on Monday.



ANJUM NAVEED/AP

Pakistani protesters beat a police officer during a clash in Islamabad on Monday. The anti-government protesters stormed Pakistan's state television building and pushed closer to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's residence Monday.

## Anti-Sharif protesters storm Pakistan's state TV station

By ZARAR KHAN  
AND ANJUM NAVEED  
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Anti-government protesters stormed Pakistan's state television building Monday, forcing the channel briefly off the air as they clashed with police and pushed closer to the prime minister's residence.

The violence comes as part of the mass demonstrations led by cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri and opposition politician Imran Khan that demand Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif resign. Over the weekend, clashes between protesters and security forces killed three people and wounded hundreds in running street battles in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad.

On Monday, protesters and police clashed in various areas of the Red Zone, a complex of government buildings and grassy lawns in the center of Islamabad. The protesters, armed with clubs and many wearing gas masks, hurled rocks at police. Five police officers, including a senior Islamabad police chief, and three protesters were taken to the hospital.

The protesters made it to a gate that surrounds the prime minister's residence, where they were met by paramilitary Rangers and army troops.

They also stormed into the building of the Pakistani state broadcaster, located in another area of the Red Zone, and forced the television briefly off the air. Inside the state TV building, the protesters moved through the corridors with sticks and clubs, smashing equipment and visibly nervous employees looked on.

The rallies against Sharif constitute the biggest threat to his government after a little more than a year in office. Several rounds of negotiations between representatives of Khan and Qadri and the government have failed to make any headway.

The two opposition leaders allege widespread fraud in the country's May 2013 election, in which Sharif's party won by a landslide. International observers had found no evidence indicating rampant election tampering.

Sharif has refused to step down. Rumors swirled around the capital Monday after several television stations reported that the military forced Sharif to leave office, something the army later called "totally baseless."

The protests began with a march to Islamabad from the eastern city of Lahore on the country's Independence Day, Aug. 14. Once in the capital, the protesters camped out near the

parliament, pushing their demands. Khan and Qadri had called for millions to join them but crowds at the most numbered in the tens of thousands.

The rallies initially remained peaceful, though they forced a lockdown of Islamabad. Violence first erupted Saturday, with police firing tear gas and clashing with protesters who pushed closer to the seat of government.

On Monday, Qadri's followers reached the gate of the prime minister's residence — the first of at least two layers of security protecting the house, a few hundred yards from the residence itself — and staged a sit-in there.

"We have reached near the prime minister's residence. Wait for some time and you will hear the news of our ultimate victory," Qadri urged them.

At the state TV, senior official Athar Farooq said 20 cameras went missing as protesters overran the station. "The intruders seemed well trained" and were taking instructions over cell phones, he said.

Army troops and paramilitary Rangers later reached the building and began to clear it of protesters. Some private Pakistani TV stations showed footage of protesters embracing the Rangers and agreeing to leave.

## Israeli taking of land for settlements provokes ire in West Bank, US

By JOEL GREENBERG  
McClatchy Foreign Staff

JERUSALEM — An announcement by Israel that it was appropriating nearly 1,000 acres of land in the West Bank to prepare for further settlement construction has drawn criticism from the United States and protests from

the Palestinian leadership. The Israeli anti-settlement group Peace Now called it the biggest appropriation of West Bank land in 30 years. It was ordered by the government after the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli teenagers in June.

Israel blamed Hamas for the abduction, and a crackdown on

the Islamist group in the West Bank led to an escalation of rocket attacks and airstrikes across the Gaza Strip border that culminated in a 50-day war in which more than 2,000 Palestinians and 73 Israelis died.

Maj. Guy Inbar, a spokesman for the Israeli military administration in the West Bank, said

authorities had served notice of the land appropriation on Sunday, allowing Palestinians claiming ownership of the tracts 45 days to appeal the decision.

The U.S. has opposed expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, arguing that it undermined prospects for a Palestinian state in the territory as part of a

future peace agreement.

The step was condemned by the office of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. "This decision will lead to more instability," said Nabil Abu Rudeineh, a spokesman for Abbas. "This will only inflame the situation after the war in Gaza."



## WORLD

# Cuba targets goods in travelers' luggage

By MICHAEL WEISSSTEIN  
The Associated Press

HAVANA — Cubans braced Monday for a clampdown on the flow of car tires, flat-screen televisions, blue jeans and shampoo in the bags of travelers who haul eye-popping amounts of foreign-bought merchandise to an island where consumer goods are frequently shoddy, scarce and expensive.

Hundreds of thousands of Cubans and Cuban-Americans fly to and from the island each year thanks to the easing of travel restrictions by the U.S. and Cuban governments over the last five years. Their Cuba-bound checked baggage has become a continuous airlift that moves nearly \$2 billion of products ranging from razor blades to rice cookers. The baggage carousels at Cuba's airports

often look like they're disgorging the contents of entire Wal-Mart or Target stores. Many families bring special trailers to carry the bags of their returning kin, which often weigh many hundreds of pounds and include items such as bicycles and flat-screen TVs.

The Cuban government on Monday was enacting new rules meant to take a big bite of that traffic, sharply limiting the amount of goods people can bring into Cuba in their luggage or ship by boat from abroad. The Cuban government says the restrictions are meant to curb abuses that have turned air travel in particular into a way for professional "mules" to illegally import supplies for both black-market businesses and legal private enterprises that are supposed to buy supplies from the state.

Among ordinary Cubans, reac-

tions have ranged from worry to outrage that their primary, and for many only, source of high-quality consumer goods may be throttled.

"People are really unhappy," said Maite Delgado, 75, a retired state worker. "All the clothes and shoes that I have come from my granddaughters in Spain or my siblings in the U.S."

The rules that were to go into effect Monday run 41 pages and give a sense of the quantity and diversity of the commercial goods arriving in checked bags. Travelers will now be allowed to bring in 22 pounds of detergent instead of 44, one set of hand tools instead of two and 24 bras instead of 48. Four car tires are still permitted, as are two pieces of baby furniture and two flat-screen televisions. Cuban customs also bars passengers from bringing in items worth more than \$1,000.



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Travelers wait in line with their luggage at Miami International Airport before traveling to Cuba in December 2011.



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

## French building collapse death toll reaches 7

French firemen search in the rubble of a building Sunday in Rosny-sous-Bois, France, after an explosion collapsed it. The death toll in the partial collapse of the four-story building in the northeastern Paris suburb has risen to seven after emergency crews pulled the body of an elderly woman from the rubble. Officials said there was no longer danger in the neighborhood after the explosion sheared part of the building Sunday, scattering scraps of metal and household belongings. French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve has said a gas leak is believed to be the cause.

## Liberia extends stay-home order amid Ebola crisis

By JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLER  
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Liberia's president ordered most civil servants to stay home another month in an effort to stop the spread of the deadly Ebola virus, according to a statement released Monday.

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf ordered nonessential workers not to come to work and promised that all government workers would still be paid.

Liberia's schools are already closed in the effort to keep large numbers of people from gathering and potentially spreading the disease.

The World Health Organization says up to 20,000 people may contract the virus before it is put under control, and that it could take six months to do so.

More than 1,500 have died across West Africa from Ebola. Liberia has suffered the most deaths in the outbreak that has hit five West African countries. On Friday,

Senegal announced its first case.

The WHO said a student from Guinea arrived in Dakar by road on Aug. 20 and was staying with relatives "in the outskirts of the city." It said that on Aug. 23, he went to a medical facility seeking treatment for fever, diarrhea and vomiting, all symptoms of Ebola.

He was treated for malaria and continued to stay with his relatives before turning up at the Dakar hospital on Aug. 26.

## Spain orders custody for parents of sick UK boy

By DANICA KIRKA  
The Associated Press

LONDON — The grandmother of a 5-year-old British boy with a severe brain tumor accused U.K. authorities on Monday of cruelty for seeking an arrest warrant and pursuing the family abroad after his parents removed him from a British hospital against medical advice.

Hours later, a Spanish judge ordered the parents' detention for 72 hours while a court in Madrid considers whether to grant Britain an extradition request.

Grandmother Patricia King told the BBC it was an "absolute disgrace" that her son and daughter-in-law were accused of child neglect after they took Ashya from Southampton General Hospital last week. The family said U.K. authorities had refused to give Ashya the kind of treatment he needed.

The family has criticized Britain's health care system, saying he needed an advanced treatment option called proton beam therapy and that it wasn't being made available to him.

King's parents were arrested Sunday in southeastern Spain after a European arrest warrant was issued by Interpol at the request of British police. Their son is receiving medical treatment for a brain tumor. After his parents' arrest, he was admitted to a Spanish hospital.

King said the authorities are "the ones who are cruel, because they have taken poor, little Ashya, who is dying of a brain tumor, and they won't let the parents, my son and daughter-in-law, they won't let them see him at all."

Prime Minister David Cameron's spokesman also weighed in on the matter Monday, saying people all over the country have been moved by the family's plight.

British police say the parents, Brett and Naghemeh, are suspected of neglect.

## WORLD

# Americans held in N. Korea seek US help



WONG MAYA-E/AP

Matthew Miller, an American detainee in North Korea, waits in a room after speaking to The Associated Press on Monday in Pyongyang.

By ERIC TALMADGE  
The Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea — North Korea gave foreign media access on Monday to three detained Americans who said they have been able to contact their families and — watched by officials as they spoke — called for Washington to take a high-ranking representative to negotiate for their freedom.

Jeffrey Fowle and Matthew Miller said they expect to face trial within a month, but they said they do not know what punishment they could face or what the specific charges against them are.

Kenneth Bae, who already is serving a 15-year term, said his health has deteriorated at the labor camp where he works eight hours a day.

The three were allowed to speak briefly with The Associated Press at a meeting center in Pyongyang. North Korean officials were present during the interviews, conducted separately and in different rooms, but did not censor the questions that were asked. The three said they did not know they were going to be interviewed until immediately beforehand.

All said they believe the only solution to their situation is for a U.S. representative

**‘I’m desperate to get back to them (a wife and three children living in Miamisburg, Ohio).’**

Jeffrey Fowle  
one of three American detainees

to come to North Korea to make a direct appeal.

That has often been North Korea’s bargaining chip in the past, when senior statesmen including former President Bill Clinton made trips to Pyongyang to secure the release of detainees.

North Korea says Fowle and Miller committed hostile acts that violated their status as tourists. It has announced that authorities are preparing for the trial, but has not announced the date.

Fowle arrived in North Korea on April 29. He is suspected of leaving a Bible in a nightclub in the northern port city of Chongjin. Christian proselytizing is considered a crime in North Korea. Fowle, 56, lives in Miamisburg, Ohio, where he works in a city streets department. He has a wife and three children ages 9, 10 and 12.

“Within a month, I could be sharing a jail cell with Ken Bae,” he said, adding

that he hasn’t spoken with his family for three weeks. “I’m desperate to get back to them.”

North Korea says Miller, 24, entered the country on April 10 with a tourist visa, but tore it up at the airport and shouted that he wanted to seek asylum. Miller refused to comment on whether he was seeking asylum.

Bae, 46, a Korean-American missionary, has been held since November 2012. He was moved from a work camp to a hospital because of failing health and weight loss, but last month was sent back to the work camp outside of Pyongyang, where he said he does farm-related labor.

He said he has lost 15 pounds and has severe back pain, along with a sleep disorder. His family has said his health problems include diabetes, an enlarged heart, liver problems and back pain.

## S. Korea says North fired projectile into the sea

By HYUNG-JIN KIM  
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea fired another short-range projectile into the sea Monday, a Seoul official said, in the country’s latest series of test made three days after it canceled a plan to send cheerleaders to the upcoming

Asian Games in the South.

The projectile flew about 135 miles before landing in waters off the North’s east coast, a South Korean Defense Ministry official said, speaking on condition of anonymity citing department rules.

North Korea routinely test-fires missiles and rockets, but it has conducted an unusually large

number of weapons tests this year.

The country has sent a mixed signal by repeatedly making a set of proposals that it said would lower tensions, such as halting mutual slandering.

South Korea has rebuffed those overtures, saying the North must first take steps toward nuclear

disarmament.

North Korea had said it wanted to send both athletes and cheerleaders to the Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea. But the North said Friday it decided not to send cheerleaders because of what it called South Korea’s hostility.

Analysts say the North’s decision suggests that the country

may not continue an earlier push to improve ties with South Korea.

The North said it still plans to send athletes to the games set for Sept. 19-Oct. 4.

The two Koreas remain divided along a heavily armed border since their war in the 1950s ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

## Japan rolls out campaign to stockpile toilet paper

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
The Associated Press

TOKYO — A message Japan began delivering Monday is a bit unusual, but true enough: Don’t wait until it’s too late to think about toilet paper.

The government and paper companies kicked off a “Let’s stockpile toilet paper!” campaign to mark Disaster Prevention Day, warning of a possible crisis because nearly half of the supply comes from one of Japan’s most earthquake-prone areas.

Officials said people immediately think of food and water as emergency supplies, but easily forget toilet paper and get desperate when it’s too late.

“After running out of toilet paper, people start using tissue, and that could clog up precious workable toilets,” said Toshiyuki Hashimoto, an industry ministry official in charge of paper products.

As part of the campaign, makers are offering a tightly-rolled, 490-foot-long, single-layer toilet

# \$4.40

The price of a six-roll pack of toilet paper that comes with a five-year expiration date and should last a family of four one month.

paper that lasts more than twice as long as a regular roll.

A family of four should be able to survive for a month on a six-roll pack, priced at \$4.40 and with a five-year expiration date, said Satoshi Kurosaki, chairman of the Japan Household Paper Industry Association.

Government and industry officials said 41 percent of the country’s toilet paper supply comes from Shizuoka prefecture in central Japan, where experts say there is a higher than 80 percent chance of a major offshore quake in the next 30 years.

Officials warned of a nationwide toilet paper shortage for about a month in such a disaster based on lessons learned from the



MARI YAMAGUCHI/AP

Satoshi Kurosaki, a household paper industry executive who is leading the toilet paper campaign, shows the emergency stock toilet paper at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on Monday.

deadly March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in northern Japan.

Nine months after that disaster, toilet paper was added to a list of recommended items that included food, water, portable toilets and a first-aid kit under the government’s Basic Disaster

Management Plan.

“Along with food, toilet paper was among the first items that disappeared from store shelves during the disaster, even outside disaster-hit areas,” Hashimoto said in front of a public display in the ministry entrance hall, deco-

rated with campaign posters, including one saying, “Be prepared and no regrets!”

The campaign involves nearly 40 toilet paper companies, including industry leaders Nippon Paper Crexia Co., Oji Neptia Co. and Mitsubishi Paper Mills Ltd.



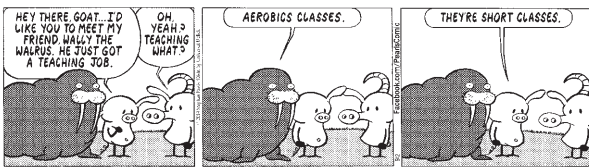
Frazz



Dilbert



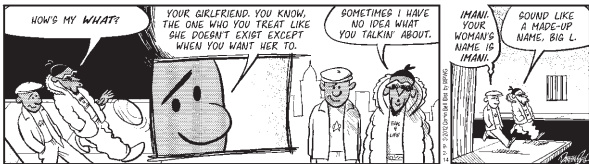
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13		7		14				
15				16					17				
			18				19	20					
21	22	23				24							
25						26					27	28	29
30						31					32		
33				34					35				
				36				37					
38	39	40					41						
42					43	44				45	46	47	
48					49				50				
51					52				53				

### ACROSS

- Platter
- Pea container
- Run
- Sandwich cookie
- "Norma —"
- Hodgepodge
- Make over
- Clinton's veep
- Nonclerical
- Shot on the green
- Bed linen
- Small plateau
- Henry VIII's Catherine
- Deserter
- Submachine gun
- External
- Beehive stuff
- Famous
- Arm bone
- Stein and Stiller
- Type of tea from India
- Dangerous fly
- Brewery product
- Tittle
- Kidney-shaped
- Revealing skirt
- Grecian vessel
- Eye layer
- Verve
- Before (Pref.)
- Gentlewoman

### DOWN

- "Le Coq —"
- Anger
- D.C. fig.
- Ice chest
- Importune
- Feed-bag tidbit
- Dug down further
- GI ID
- Oodles
- Paddock papa
- Tackled the weeds
- Cistern
- Addict
- Boot attachment
- Confused
- State
- Ms. Brockovich
- Apportions (out)
- Second-place contender
- Piercing tools
- Comical Carvey
- Physical
- Has bills
- Get
- Handy
- "The Greatest"
- Fourth dimension
- Dirt
- Sicilian volcano
- Elizabeth's daughter
- Blunder
- Eggs
- Scarlet
- Has permission

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

D	A	D	O	C	T	E	T	C	I	S
O	D	E	C	L	A	R	A	O	H	O
C	O	M	P	L	A	I	N	T	M	O
L	O	T	S	T	E	P	P	E		
D	E	C	O	C	T	O	D	O		
A	G	O	K	E	G	O	A	S	I	S
D	O	M	E	R	E	S	M	I	R	E
A	S	P	I	C	M	E	H	T	I	C
A	R	I	L	M	O	D	E	S	T	
D	I	N	E	R	O	I	N	A		
A	N	I	C	O	M	P	E	N	D	I
I	D	O	U	S	U	R	Y	A	C	T
S	Y	N	S	E	G	O	S	B	Y	E

9-2

### CRYPTOQUIP

HY TXE'LJ KXXNHAZ WX YHAV  
VHJW-YLHJAVKT RJOKM XA  
WCJ RJA E, SCJSN TXEL

KX-SOK KHMWHAZM.

Yesterday's Cryptquip: NEXT YEAR I WANT TO GROW SOME PURPLISH-RED FLOWERS, SO I'M EXCITEDLY PLANNING FOR THE FUCHSIA.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Y equals F

## WORLD

A woman sells grasshoppers and other fried insects from a stand at a gas station in Nakhon Ratchasima province, northeastern Thailand.



# BANKING ON BUGS

The edible insect industry becomes a boon for Thailand's farmers

By DENIS D. GRAY  
The Associated Press

THANON NANG KLARN, Thailand — Depending solely on the rains to either yield a good rice crop or leave their fields dry and barren, farmers in this village in northeastern Thailand, the country's poorest region, led a precarious and back-breaking existence. Then they discovered bugs.

At Boontham Puthachat's home, six concrete pens seethe with crickets munching on chicken feed, pumpkins and other vegetables — treats to fatten them before they are harvested and sold to hungry humans increasingly eager for a different type of dining experience.

"We haven't become rich, but now we have enough to better take care of our families," Boontham says proudly. "We are self-sufficient."

Boontham's family is one of 30 in this village raising mounds of the profitable crisp and crunchy critters in their backyards, satisfying a big domestic appetite for edible insects, and a slowly emerging international one in countries where most diners would rather starve than sample fried grasshoppers or omelets studded with red ant eggs.

Replicated across the country,



PHOTOS BY APICHART WEERAWONG/AP

**Boontham Puthachat, 47, shows how crickets are raised at his farm in Nakhon Ratchasima province, northeastern Thailand.**

these enterprises have spawned a multimillion-dollar industry with more than 20,000 registered farms, most of them small-scale household operations, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. Averaging an annual output of 7,500 tons in recent years, Thailand leads the world in producing insects for the dining table.

While it may still seem exotic, if not outright repulsive, to many in

the Western world, the FAO points out that insects have long been an integral part of human diets in nearly 100 countries, particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with more than 1,600 species consumed.

In China, the use of insects for food and medicine goes back more than 5,000 years. In recent times, cockroach farming has flourished, with some entrepreneurs getting rich by selling dried cockroaches



**A 6-ounce serving of crickets has 60 percent less saturated fat and twice as much vitamin B-12 as the same amount of ground beef.**

**Eating a few insects is like taking a multivitamin.**

— Patrick B. Durst, U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization official

to companies producing cosmetics and traditional medicines.

Besides generating extra income, insects have proven nutritious and farming them is easy on the environment, according to a 2013 FAO report.

"Eating a few insects is like taking a multivitamin," says Patrick B. Durst, a senior FAO official who co-authored a study on Thailand's edible insect industry. A 6-ounce

serving of crickets, for example, has 60 percent less saturated fat and twice as much vitamin B-12 as the same amount of ground beef. Farmers don't use antibiotics or growth hormones and unlike crabs and lobsters — edible insects don't feed on dead animals.

Six-legged livestock, as the agency calls them, are also kinder to the environment than their lesser-legged counterparts. It takes 2,900 gallons of water, 25 pounds of feed and extensive acreage to produce one pound of beef and just one gallon of water, two pounds of feed and a small cubicle to produce a pound of crickets.

And when one suppresses any psychological and cultural biases, many insects taste just fine. This reporter found crickets nicely crisp and nutty (a cross between shrimp and almond), and fried shrimp worms not unlike unsalted potato chips. Palm weevils, to some palates, are likened to bacon soup with a chewy, sweet finish, while insect larvae are rich and buttery. "Mushroomy" is another frequently-used description for some species.

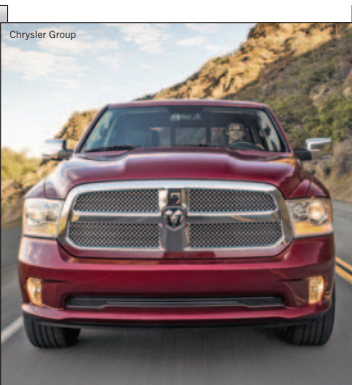
Durst is cautious about predictions that edible insects will stave off hunger in parts of the world, but believes that as a supplement, it could become an important component of food security.

## SHIFTING GEARS

## Automakers look to challenge Ford's F-series



GMC



Chrysler Group



Toyota

## GMC, Toyota, Ram take aim at the blue oval's best seller

By DAVID UNDERCOFFLER  
Los Angeles Times

This is the runners-up ball.

Each year, sales of trucks from General Motors, Ram and Toyota are left in the dust by Ford's F-Series, often by a wide margin. In 2013, Ford's pickups swallowed nearly 40 percent of the full-size truck market. It was America's bestselling vehicle for the 32nd consecutive year.

That leaves the Chevy Silverado and GMC Sierra, the Ram 1500 and the Toyota Tundra to fight for what's left (Nissan's Titan also exists, yet with less than 1 percent of the market, it might as well not).

But that doesn't necessarily mean these non-Fords should be overlooked. Each has been significantly upgraded in the past year with excellent results.

### Fuel efficiency: Ram 1500 Diesel

Ram gave its 1500 truck a thorough overhaul for the 2014 model year that included adding an all-new V-6 diesel option. This efficient engine looks to counter Ford's fuel-sipping EcoBoost, an optional turbocharged V-6 that 40 percent of F-150 buyers choose.

The Ram's 3.0-liter turbodiesel makes 240 horsepower and 420 pound-feet of torque. It's matched

up with an eight-speed automatic, and this smooth pairing can tow a whopping 9,200 pounds.

Better yet, the EPA rating of 19 mpg in the city and 27 on the highway is tough to beat. That's remarkable for a truck that feels like it could tow medium-size office buildings. During a week of mostly highway drives, we averaged 24 mpg.

While the ample torque was always appreciated for quick initial pickup, buyers should note that 240 horses aren't a lot for passing or on ramps. But that was the only flaw we noticed.

The cheapest Ram 1500 diesel can be had for \$30,890 for a two-door, rear-wheel-drive, stripped-down version. On the other end of the pricing spectrum was our \$53,385 tester.

It piled on nearly the entire catalog, including an upgrade to the crew cab, all-wheel-drive, navigation, an adjustable air suspension, 20-inch alloy wheels, the RamBox cargo area in the side of the truck bed, heated front seats and steering wheel, and a backup camera and parking sensors.

That's a hefty price tag, though it's not out of step with the rest of the high-end, full-size truck segment. Regardless, the Ram is impressive, quiet and efficient.

No wonder the brand's sales are up nearly 22 percent for the first seven months of 2014.

### Luxury: Toyota Tundra 1794 Crewmax

It's odd that the least-expensive truck of this trio is also the one representing the luxury truck market. But Toyota's Tundra 1794 is actually a bit of a bargain.

Toyota aligned itself with the Lone Star state by naming the 1794 after the year that the oldest working ranch in Texas was founded. Toyota opened a plant on this San Antonio site in 2006, and the Tundra has been built there ever since.

The 1794 sits atop the Tundra hierarchy, and our tester costs \$49,170. But that gets you a lot of truck. Highlights include perforated leather seats that are heated and cooled up front, a seven-inch touchscreen navigation system, blind-spot monitoring, a moonroof, LED daytime running lights, 20-inch alloy wheels and a trick rear window that rolls down.

The rear seats on this Tundra Crewmax are so large you could rent them out on Airbnb for the weekend. The rear seat cushions also flip up to stow your gear when not in use.

Despite a third-generation redesign for 2014, this is not a particularly advanced truck. V-8 engine, six-speed automatic, optional four-wheel drive, that's it. Fans of fuel-saving technology like cylinder

deactivation, eight-speed transmissions, turbocharging or diesel engines should look elsewhere.

The EPA rated our tester at 13 mpg in the city and 17 mpg on the highway. We averaged 15 mpg in a week of mixed driving.

But the 5.7-liter engine and its 381 horsepower and 401 pound-feet of torque can tow 9,000 pounds. And it did deliver effortless, quiet power, making the truck feel light on its feet in daily driving.

While Toyota has always struggled to steal truck sales from the Big Three, 2014 has been a good year for the Tundra. Sales are up by more than 11 percent through July, and with a bread-and-butter luxury truck like the Tundra 1794, we can see why.

### The heavy-duty player: GMC Sierra Denali 2500 4x4 Crew Cab

Putting the heavy in heavy duty, this tow-friendly monster rounded out our trio.

A 6.0-liter, V-8 turbodiesel churns out 397 horsepower and 765 pound-feet of torque on tow up to 13,000 pounds. It's bolted to a six-speed Allison automatic transmission that worked fine, save for a slight shudder when shifting from reverse to drive.

While the Ram's diesel engine is more of an efficiency play, the

GMC relies on its diesel for towing prowess. As a result, fuel economy isn't much of a concern; the EPA doesn't even require fuel economy estimates because its gross weight is over 8,500 pounds. A week of testing during mostly highway miles left us with an average of 17 mpg.

The engine is plenty strong, though it sounds like a bus. Fortunately, everything in this generation of GM's trucks and SUVs has a quiet interior.

Our only complaint with the road manners of this truck was the suspension. Our tester came with the \$255 off-road package that included Ram shocks. For on-road use, they did little to smooth out bumps.

The rest of the Sierra Denali is plenty refined. GMC is the upscale brother to Chevy, and the Denali takes that one step further.

Our loaded, \$63,835 test truck had a list of features that rivaled the Tundra's: leather seats that were heated and cooled up front, heated steering wheel, eight-inch touchscreen navigation system, lane-departure warning system, forward collision alert, LED daytime running lights, and a Bose stereo system.

It also comes with enough USB ports to run a smartphone charging service.

This is a big truck for big spenders with big things to tow.

### 2014 Ram 1500 Outdoorsman Crew Cab 4x4

Vehicle type: Four-door, full-size pickup truck.

Base price: \$44,660.

Price as tested: \$53,385.

Powertrain: 3.0-liter, turbocharged diesel V-6, four-wheel-drive.

Transmission: Eight-speed automatic transmission.

Horsepower: 240.

Torque: 420 pound-feet.

EPA fuel economy rating: 19 mpg in the city, 27 on the highway.

### 2014 Toyota Tundra 1794 Crewmax 4x4

Vehicle type: Four-door, full-size pickup truck.

Base price: \$49,170.

Price as tested: \$49,170.

Powertrain: 5.7-liter V-8 with direct-injection, four-wheel-drive.

Transmission: Six-speed automatic transmission.

Horsepower: 381.

Torque: 401 pound-feet.

EPA fuel economy rating: 13 mpg in the city, 17 on the highway.

### 2015 GMC Sierra Denali 2500 4WD Crew Cab

Vehicle type: Four-door, full-size heavy-duty pickup truck.

Base price: \$54,835.

Price as tested: \$65,335.

Powertrain: 6.6-liter turbocharged diesel V-8 with direct-injection, four-wheel-drive.

Transmission: Six-speed Allison automatic transmission.

Horsepower: 397.

Torque: 765 pound-feet.

EPA fuel economy rating: N/A.

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Woman gives birth inside Wal-Mart

**GA** ROSWELL — Labor Day came early for a Roswell woman who gave birth inside a Wal-Mart near Atlanta.

Authorities said the baby made its arrival shortly after 5 a.m. Aug. 26 in the Wal-Mart Supercenter on Mansell Road in Roswell.

Ken Simpson, regional director for the Rural/Metro ambulance company, said the woman delivered her baby inside the store before paramedics could arrive.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported the new mother and her baby were taken to Northside Hospital for evaluation.

Wal-Mart officials did not immediately return the Atlanta newspaper's call for comment.

The woman's name wasn't released, and it wasn't immediately known whether she was a customer or an employee.

## Search for pilot who plunged into ocean ends

**VA** CHINCOTEAGUE — The Coast Guard has suspended the search for a pilot who lost consciousness and crashed a small airplane into the Atlantic Ocean off the Virginia shore.

Petty Officer Nate Littlejohn said the search was halted Sunday morning after a civilian boater recovered a wheel and engine cowl from the single-engine Cirrus. Littlejohn said the chances of finding anything else were slim.

The plane drifted into restricted airspace over the nation's capital Saturday afternoon, scrambling fighter jets that stayed with it until it crashed about 50 miles southeast of Chincoteague. The plane had left Waukesha, Wis., and was headed to Manassas, Va. The pilot, whose name has not been released, was the only person on board.

The plane was registered to Ronald Hutchinson, of Brookfield, Wis. Relatives reached at a phone number for him did not want to comment Saturday night.

## Man, 20, held in pellet attacks in Central Park

**NY** NEW YORK — A suspect has been arrested in connection with a pair of Central Park pellet gun attacks that police designated as hate crimes.

Police charged Edward Fall, 20, on Saturday with assault, reckless endangerment and criminal possession of a weapon.

They said the Manhattan man was one of five people who struck a 36-year-old woman with a pellet Aug. 18 and made anti-white statements toward her.

Police said Fall also shot a pellet gun at a 34-year-old man on the other side of the park about three hours earlier.

Both victims were struck in the head while jogging.

The other suspects are still at large. The two men and two women are all described as black and between 15 and 20 years old.

The NYPD's Hate Crime Task Force is investigating.

## THE CENSUS

# 1,011.5

The weight in pounds of a gigantic alligator caught by a family near Camden, Ala., earlier this month that set a Safari Club International world record. Master measures from the group determined a total length of 15 feet, 9 inches, 13 inches longer than the organization's previous world record holder, killed in Texas.



JAMES R. BURNETT, THE (OMAHA, NEB.) WORLD-HERALD/AP

## King-size prize

Jaelynn Murphy carries her stuffed animal to the car after her stepfather won it during Septemberfest in Omaha, Neb.

## Bear teeth sought from successful hunters

**VT** MONTPELIER — The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife is asking the state's successful bear hunters to submit a tooth to biologists so they can collect information about the bear population.

Vermont's early bear-hunting season started on Monday.

Teeth are used to determine the ages of bears.

Biologists use age and sex data to get an estimate of the number of bears in the state and to determine the status and health of the bear population.

Instructions for removing the tooth can be found on the back of an envelope that will be provided by big-game check stations. State bear project leader Forrest Hammond said conditions should be good this year for bear hunting.

## Mountain lion cubs are rescued in fire

**MT** MISSOULA — Firefighters in western Montana rescued two mountain lion cubs hiding under a burning log.

Bitterroot National Forest

spokesman Tod McKay said a crew fighting a blaze in the Sapphire Mountains was digging a fire line Friday when they heard noises coming from under the log.

The fire prevented the crew from reaching the log, so they called in a helicopter that dropped 600 gallons of water.

McKay said the soaked cubs came out when the flames were extinguished. He estimated they were just a few weeks old.

McKay said Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks took custody of the cubs. Crews did not see any other mountain lions in the area of the 48-acre fire they are battling about 9 miles east of Florence.

## Rare giraffe twins born at San Francisco Zoo

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — Twin giraffes were born at the San Francisco Zoo last week, but one of them has died.

KGO-TV reported the male giraffe calves were born Tuesday morning. One calf was born at approximately 100 pounds and was immediately alert and nursing from his mother, 11-year-old Bititi.

The second calf was much smaller and weak at birth. His post-birth complications became untreatable and he died two days

later.

The zoo's president, Tanya Peterson, called the birth announcement bittersweet.

The station said twin giraffe births are extremely rare and that this was the 10th recorded live birth of giraffe twins in zoos around the world.

## Mystery of man's entry into state office solved

**UT** SALT LAKE CITY — Authorities have solved the mystery over how a bloodied, drunken man entered a state capitol building in the wee hours of the morning.

The Utah Highway Patrol, which provides security of the Capitol grounds, said the 24-year-old Layton man was too inebriated to remember how he gained entry Friday.

UHP Sgt. Todd Royce said a review of security camera video showed the door apparently was left unlocked for about 30 minutes after an employee left on a break.

Royce said the intruder then entered through the unlocked door. The man, whose name wasn't released, was found lying semi-conscious in a lobby about 4:30 a.m. after attending Thursday night's Utah-Idaho State football game.

Charges are pending, and he was released to his father.

## Museum to display 1916 military gear

**IL** SPRINGFIELD — If you've ever wondered how Americans waged war 100 years ago, the Illinois State Military Museum will give you a glimpse of the past.

The Springfield museum plans to put uniforms, weapons and other equipment on display that was used by the Illinois National Guard during a 1916 border campaign against Pancho Villa.

The Mexican revolutionary raided New Mexico, and Maj. Gen. John Pershing launched a yearlong effort to get him. Illinois' guardsmen were mobilized along the Texas border.

A Friday news release from the National Guard says the campaign was the first time the Army used airplanes and trucks. It turned out to be a dress rehearsal for American participation in World War I.

The items will be displayed at the military museum starting Saturday.

From wire reports

## FACES



ERIC CHARBONNEAU, INVISION/AP

Pierce Brosnan is no stranger to the espionage genre. But his current movie, "The November Man," has him playing a more haunted and emotionally broken role than his previous James Bond turns.

## TOUGHER WITH AGE

Once a Bond, Brosnan takes on a grittier role in 'The November Man'

By JOSH ROTTENBERG  
Los Angeles Times

On his 60th birthday in May 2013, Pierce Brosnan woke up in Belgrade, Serbia. In three days he was to start shooting a new action-thriller called "The November Man," playing a world-weary but still lethal ex-CIA agent — the sort of role that would involve a whole lot of running, jumping, pistol-whipping and fireball-dodging.

"I thought, 'Is this a good idea?'" Brosnan recalled recently. He decided that it felt right in his gut. "I can still run in a straight line," he said with a wry smile, "and I can still throw a punch."

Brosnan is no stranger to the espionage genre, of course. You might remember his stint as a certain British superspy with a fondness for martinis, Aston Martins and scantily clad women. Indeed, the persona of the charming but deadly international man of intrigue has fit Brosnan like a tailored tuxedo since well before the James Bond franchise came his way in 1995, going all the way back to his breakout role on the 1980s TV series "Remington Steele."

Now, 12 years after his final appearance as 007 in the film "Die Another Day," Brosnan is playing a very different kind of spy on the big screen, one more haunted and emotionally broken than Bond or Steele. Adapted from a 1987 novel by late author Bill Granger, "The November Man," now in

theaters, centers on a former CIA agent named Peter Devereaux who comes in from the cold for one final assignment involving a power-hungry Russian leader.

"Devereaux is a much darker, more reflective, more cynical and ruthless person than Bond ever was," said the film's director, Roger Donaldson. "The only thing the characters have in common is that they're both spies."

Like Devereaux, Brosnan himself resisted being pulled back into the spy business for years. In the wake of his four-film run as Bond, he charted an unpredictable course, zigzagging between dramas and comedies and deliberately tweaking his own image whenever he could.

In the 2005 comic thriller "The Matador," Brosnan played an assassin whose life is falling apart. In the 2008 musical comedy hit "Mamma Mia!" he crooned ABBA songs — something Bond would never be caught dead doing, even under torture by the likes of Blofeld.

The goal was stay relevant and fresh to avoid a fate similar to that of actor Roger Moore, who never quite managed to escape the shadow of Bond.

"If Pierce had gone straight into action movies after Bond, he could have trashed his career," said Brosnan's longtime producing partner, Beau St. Clair. "We try to push the boundaries on every movie. You don't want to hack out."

In a way, "The November Man" represents Brosnan's chance to make his own espionage film in the grittier, more grounded style that the Bond films adopted after he left the role.

The actor's upcoming films include the romantic comedy "How to Make Love Like an Englishman" and the thriller "The Coup." He also is continuing to develop projects through his production company, Irish DreamTime, including a sequel to his 1999 heist remake "The Thomas Crown Affair."

locale from the original "Halo: Combat Evolved" sci-fi shooter.

"Our director, Sergio Mimica-Gezzan, felt really strongly that he wanted the setting to be a character," executive producer Kiki Wolfkill told hundreds of fans.

Following the destruction of the Alpha Ring at the end of "Halo" by series protagonist Master Chief, the fragment now

orbits an unidentified sun, making the surface inhospitable for several hours a day.

"We really dug into how this fragment ended up there," Wolfkill said.

The live-action series takes place between the video games "Halo 4" and "Halo 5: Guardians," which is set for release next year exclusively on the Xbox One console from Microsoft Corp. "Nightfall" centers

# 'Guardians' becomes top movie of the year

Los Angeles Times

Perhaps as a sign this summer couldn't be over soon enough for Hollywood, the top three positions at the box office for the weekend were the same as last week. "Guardians of the Galaxy" continued its surprising run with an estimated three-day draw of \$16.3 million, and with a cumulative total of \$274.6 million in the U.S. and Canada through Sunday, the film became the top box-office draw of the year so far, passing "Captain America: The Winter Soldier."

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" continued its surprising showing, bringing in an estimated \$11.8 million in its fourth weekend for a total of \$162.4 million.

In its second weekend, the teen romantic drama "If I Stay" brought in about \$9.3 million for a new total of \$29.8 million.

The best new opener of the weekend was the low-budget horror thriller "As Above, So Below" in the fourth spot, bringing in an estimated \$8.3 million. In its third week, "Let's Be Cops" came in fifth with an estimated \$8.2 million for a new total of \$57.3 million. "The November Man," an espionage thriller starring Pierce Brosnan, opened in sixth place with an estimated three-day total of \$7.7 million.

Specific figures for the Labor Day holiday are still to be released, but the summer box office will likely be just above \$4 billion, down 15 percent from \$4.75 billion in the summer 2013. But with potential successes such as the latest "Hunger Games" and "Hobbit" films along with Christopher Nolan's much-anticipated "Interstellar" still to come, 2014 could turn itself around.

## Paper prints unused chapter of Dahl classic

An unused chapter of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" has been released — 50 years after Roald Dahl's much-loved children's novel was first published.

The fifth chapter, from a 1961 draft, describes an extra room in the factory called the "Vanilla Fudge Room," which features a "colossal jagged mountain" made of fudge. The draft also featured more children, and showed that Charlie originally went into the factory with his mother, not his grandfather.

The chapter was published in the Guardian newspaper Aug. 30 with the permission of the Roald Dahl Nominee Ltd., an organization that manages his legacy.

## Comedian Morgan still struggling after crash

An attorney for Tracy Morgan says the former "Saturday Night Live" actor is having a tough time recovering from a June accident on the New Jersey Turnpike that left a fellow comedian dead.

Attorney Benedict Morelli tells The Star-Ledger newspaper that Morgan relies on a wheelchair and it might be months before he can fully walk again. Morelli says Morgan appears to be making progress, but it will be a month before he is assessed "cognitively."

Morgan broke his leg, nose and several ribs in a six-car accident

involving his limo bus, and comedian James McNair was killed. The bus was struck by a Wal-Mart truck.

## Placido Domingo to be final act at iTunes fest

Placido Domingo will be the closing act at this year's iTunes Festival in London.

The famed Spanish tenor will perform Sept. 30 at the Roundhouse — the last performance of a monthlong, starry lineup, festival organizers announced.

Deadmau5 was to kick off the concert Sept. 1, followed by the likes of Pharrell Williams, Katy Perry, Calvin Harris, The Script and Ed Sheeran.

Gigs can be streamed live in more than 100 countries.

## Other news

■ **Donnie Wahlberg's** "Favorite Girl" Jenny McCarthy is now his wife. The couple tied the knot Sunday in a ceremony near Chicago, McCarthy's publicist, Brad Cafarelli, confirmed. It's the second marriage for both Wahlberg, 45, and McCarthy, 41.

■ **Celebrity chat** **Todd English** has been arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated in New York. Police in Southampton say the 54-year-old English was arrested at around 3:30 a.m. Sunday. Authorities say he posted \$1,500 bail at Southampton Town Justice Court.

From The Associated Press

# 'Halo' makers shed light on live-action series at gaming convention

The Associated Press

"Halo: Nightfall" is returning to familiar territory.

The overseers of the popular franchise at 343 Industries announced Aug. 30 at the PAX Prime gaming convention in Seattle that the upcoming live-action "Halo" series would take place on a surviving fragment of the Alpha Ring, the intergalactic

on agent Jameson Locke, who is portrayed by Mike Colter and will be a playable character in "Halo 5."

The multi-part film will be released this year ahead of a live-action "Halo" TV series that will be produced by Steven Spielberg. The untitled show is scheduled to debut next year on Microsoft's Xbox Live service, as well as the Showtime network.

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Tesla deals as states play factory poker

By JUSTIN PRITCHARD  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — From the start, little has been typical about Tesla Motors' plan for a \$5 billion factory to make batteries for a new generation of electric cars.

It's not just the project's massive scale, the cutting-edge technology, or even the bonanza of 6,500 good-paying jobs.

It's how Tesla is deciding where to build.

Through a series of unusual plays, Tesla has five states bidding up subsidy packages to land the coveted plant. The winner is expected to offer the luxury car-maker public financial incentives exceeding a half-billion dollars.

Tesla signaled this would be no ordinary competition last fall, when it gathered economic development officials from seven Western states and unveiled its vision for a "megafactory." "Cigars" refer to the large amount of power that batteries produced at the plant



PAUL SAKUMA/AP

**Tesla CEO Elon Musk walks past the Tesla Model S after a news conference at the Tesla factory in June 2012 in Fremont, Calif.**

will store.)

This past spring, Tesla CEO Elon Musk announced that Tesla would take the extremely unusual step of spending millions of dollars to prepare sites in two states — or perhaps even three — before the finalist was chosen.

Then, during the summer, Musk said the winning state would pitch in about 10 percent of the cost, effectively signaling a minimum bid of \$500 million.

"We don't usually see companies setting a floor at which states will be considered," said Leigh

McIlvaine, of the research group Good Jobs First, which tracks large subsidy packages by states. For all the public anticipation Musk has created, much about the process remains secret.

While an industrial park in the desert outside Reno, Nev., is one known site, the other — or others — remains a mystery. Tesla has asked states not to discuss their offers, and states aren't talking.

The effect is a game of high-stakes poker, with the states as players and Tesla dealing.

The factory promises something that every state wants but rarely gets these days: thousands of good-paying factory jobs and all the residual economic benefits they bring.

Sofar, Nevada, California, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico remain contenders. They have passed tax breaks, promised worker-training funds or proposed shelving environmental regulations that could slow the factory's construction. There is talk of special legislative sessions to sweeten the bids.

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Sept. 1)	\$1.3530
Dollar buys (Sept. 1)	€0.7391
British pound (Sept. 1)	\$1.70
Japanese yen (Sept. 2)	101.00
South Korean won (Sept. 1)	990.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6563/0.6037
Canada (dollar)	1.0872
China (Yuan)	6.1435
Denmark (Krone)	5.6713
Egypt (Pound)	7.1515
Euro	\$1.3134/0.7614
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7503
Hungary (Forint)	239.89
Israel (Shekel)	3.5759
Japan (Yen)	104.10
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2845
Norway (Krone)	6.2016
Philippines (Peso)	43.65
Poland (Zloty)	3.21
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7506
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2490
South Korea (Won)	1,015.20
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9184
Taiwan (Baht)	31.96
Turkey (New Lira)	2.1611

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.00
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	3.08

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



Tuesday's US temperatures											
City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex	79	73	Cir	Chatanooga	92	70	Pcldy	Fort Wayne	80	60	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	81	60	Rain	Cheyenne	81	52	Cir	Fresno	97	66	Cir
Albany, N.Y.	88	64	Rain	Chicago	81	63	Pcldy	Goodland	87	61	Cir
Albuquerque	92	64	Cir	Cincinnati	84	65	Rain	Grand Junction	89	60	Cir
Alentown, Pa.	90	64	Pcldy	Cleveland	81	62	Rain	Grand Rapids	79	61	Cldy
Amarillo	93	68	Cir	Colorado Springs	82	55	Cir	Great Falls	76	49	Cir
Anchorage	62	51	Pcldy	Columbia, S.C.	97	74	Pcldy	Greensboro, N.C.	74	69	Pcldy
Asheville	88	64	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	94	74	Pcldy	Harrisburg	89	67	Cldy
Atlanta	91	73	Pcldy	Concord, N.H.	86	65	Cldy	Hartford Spgfld	89	68	Cldy
Atlantic City	94	71	Pcldy	Corpus Christi	92	79	Rain	Helena	79	48	Cir
Austin	96	75	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	96	77	Pcldy	Honolulu	90	75	Cldy
Baltimore	94	71	Pcldy	Dayton	82	62	Rain	Houston	91	76	Rain
Baton Rouge	92	74	Cir	Denver	90	75	Pcldy	Huntsville	94	70	Pcldy
Bilings	78	53	Cir	Des Moines	85	58	Cir	Indianapolis	81	64	Rain
Birmingham	93	73	Pcldy	Detroit	82	61	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	93	73	Cir
Blmarck	78	53	Pcldy	Duluth	74	55	Pcldy	Jacksonville	92	73	Pcldy
Boise	81	61	Cir	El Paso	99	73	Cir	Juneau	61	48	Cldy
Boston	87	72	Cir	Elkins	82	62	Rain	Kansas City	85	70	Pcldy
Bridgeport	87	69	Pcldy	Fort Worth	82	62	Rain	Key West	82	62	Pcldy
Brownsville	93	78	Rain	El Paso	78	63	Rain	Knoxville	89	69	Pcldy
Buffalo	79	60	Rain	Eugene	77	48	Cir	Lake Charles	90	76	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	88	68	Rain	Fargo	88	68	Rain	Lansing	79	59	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	78	62	Cir	Fairbanks	52	37	Rain	Las Vegas	103	80	Rain
Charleston, S.C.	93	76	Pcldy	Flagstaff	79	48	Cir	Lexington	86	69	Rain
Charleston, W.Va.	87	68	Rain	Flint	80	57	Cldy	Lincoln	83	66	Cir
Charlotte, N.C.	93	72	Pcldy	Fort Smith	93	74	Cldy	Little Rock	92	74	Pcldy
								Los Angeles	82	66	Pcldy
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National temperature extremes  
Hi: Sun., 115, Death Valley, Calif.  
Lo: Sun., 31, Dillon, Colo.



# Stripes

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 04517900) is published weekly (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

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## OPINION

## More mentors means fewer 'dropouts'

By COLIN L. POWELL,  
ALMA J. POWELL  
AND LAYSHA WARD

Nico Rodriguez was 15 years old when he found himself living on the streets of Lowell, Mass., with no plans for a high school diploma, no home to call his own and, seemingly, no future. Rodriguez was a statistic: one of the 20 percent of students who do not finish high school on time, if ever.

Editorial pages often carry arguments for education reform, but despite the importance of issues such as Common Core and teacher tenure, bad policy isn't what drove Rodriguez from school, nor is it the biggest problem facing most of the nation's nongraduates. According to the most recent America's Promise Alliance report, "Don't Call Them Dropouts," which surveyed 2,000 such young people from across the country, the reasons students leave school early are primarily environmental — including chronic absenteeism, homelessness, unsafe neighborhoods, negative role models and the need to be caregivers for parents and siblings.

What young people like Rodriguez need most is not necessarily more action in Washington but more action from us: caring adults willing to engage in a developmental relationship and the ability to help them imagine — and work toward — a better future. In a perfect world, this would be the role of every child's parents, extended family and community of friends, but this is not a perfect world. Too many young people make it all the way through their teens without having known a single caring adult.

Last month in John Deasy welcomed back

his administrators with an assignment: Look under your chairs, and you'll find the name of a struggling student. "Find that youth," Deasy says. "Stay with him or her until graduation. We are absolutely our brothers' or sisters' keepers."

The Los Angeles effort is an investment in our shared future, because the numbers affect us all. Right now in the United States, about 2.5 million people ages 16 to 24 don't have high school degrees and are not enrolled in school. With no high school diploma, these young people will be lucky to end up in dead-end jobs.

According to the Alliance for Excellent Education, were the United States to convert enough nongraduates into graduates to reach a 90 percent high school graduation rate, it would result in an additional \$8.1 billion in increased earnings every year. Nongraduates are disproportionately black and Hispanic, presenting much more significant risk for the communities of color that will make up the U.S. majority by 2043. This is not a winning formula for the United States' future.

If you want to change the world, start with a single child. Look at the difference one caring adult made in Rodriguez's life. After leaving school, Rodriguez found a mentor at a local teen center. Sakith "Sako" Long, the director of Youth Success at the United Teen Equality Center in Lowell and once also labeled "at risk," took Rodriguez under his wing and connected him with resources so he could manage the chaos in his life and begin to make time for success in school. Long helped Rodriguez toward a better future, one in which he was thriving, earning and contributing.

Rodriguez was resilient. He completed high school and is working two jobs and

training to be a chef. He has started mentoring other young people and is making plans to buy his own home and start a business. Rodriguez says he would dropouts wants to be for his 3-year-old daughter the caring parent he never had for himself.

Imagine that you have an envelope beneath your chair, containing the name of a child in need and within your reach. He or she is heading back to school now but is at risk of not finishing. There are students like this in every community across the country, just waiting for someone to connect with them.

This school year, we challenge you to find your Nico Rodriguez. Reach out directly to your local school, parent-teacher association or a relevant nonprofit with an offer to volunteer. Go to [GradNation.org](http://GradNation.org) and use the volunteering tool to identify opportunities within your ZIP code, or find out about opportunities as part of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's American Graduate Day on Sept. 27. Whatever path you choose, know that everybody can do something, starting today.

The young people you help are the promise for a strong, competitive and secure national — and, indeed, global — future. With our support, they can become leaders, teachers, scientists, engineers — and chefs. The question is: Do we have the courage and commitment to reach under our chairs and create that future?

Colin L. Powell, a retired U.S. Army general and former secretary of state, was founding chairman of America's Promise. Alma J. Powell is chairwoman of the group's board. Laysha Ward is president of community relations for Target, which sponsored the "Don't Call Them Dropouts" report. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## The Ebola fight needs sustained outside help

By JIM YONG KIM AND PAUL FARMER

If the Ebola epidemic devastating the countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone had instead struck Washington, New York or Boston, there is no doubt that the health systems in place could contain and then eliminate the disease.

Hospitals would isolate suspected cases. Health workers would be outfitted with proper protective clothing and equipment. Doctors and nurses would administer effective supportive care, including comprehensive management of dehydration, impaired kidney and liver function, bleeding disorders and electrolyte disturbance. Labs would dispose of hazardous materials properly. And a public health command center would both direct the response and communicate clearly to the public about the outbreak.

Ebola is spread by direct physical contact with infected bodily fluids, making it less transmissible than an airborne disease such as tuberculosis. A functioning health system can stop Ebola transmission and, we believe, save the lives of a majority of those who are afflicted.

So why isn't this happening in West Africa, where more than 1,500 people have already died?

As international groups pull staff from the three countries, airlines suspend commercial flights and neighboring countries close their borders, some have argued that it will be next to impossible to contain the outbreak — that public health systems are too weak, the cost of providing effective care too high and health workers too scarce.

But Ebola has been stopped in every other outbreak to date, and it can be stopped in West Africa, too. The crisis we are watch-

ing unfold derives less from the virus itself and more from deadly and misinformed biases that have led to a disastrously inadequate response to the outbreak.

These biases, tragically, live on, despite evidence that disproves them again and again.

Just 15 years ago, Western experts said confidently that there was little that rich countries could do to stop the global AIDS crisis, which was killing millions of people in Africa and elsewhere.

Today, thanks to leadership and advocacy from President George W. Bush, a bipartisan coalition of members in Congress, courageous faith-based organizations and U.S. government researchers such as Tony Fauci and Mark Dybul, more than 10 million Africans are getting life-saving treatment.

The take-no-action argument has been used over the years as an excuse not to mount an effort to control drug-resistant tuberculosis, malaria and many other diseases that afflict primarily the poor. But the reality is this: The Ebola crisis today is a reflection of long-standing and growing gaps in the ability of countries such as Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to do have the staff, staff and systems required to halt the outbreak on their own. According to its ministry of health, before the outbreak Liberia had just 50 doctors working in public health facilities serving a population of 4.3 million.

To halt this epidemic, we need an emergency response that is equal to the challenge. We need international organizations and wealthy countries that possess the required resources and knowledge to step forward and partner with West African governments to mount a serious, coordinated response as laid out in the World

Health Organization's Ebola response road map.

Many are dying needlessly. Historically, in the absence of effective care, common acute infections have been characterized by high mortality rates. What's happening with Ebola in Africa has been no different.

A 1967 outbreak in Germany and Yugoslavia of Marburg hemorrhagic fever — a disease similar to Ebola — had a 23 percent fatality rate. Compare that to an 86 percent rate for cases across sub-Saharan Africa in the 1990s. The difference is that Germany and Yugoslavia had functioning health systems and resources to treat patients effectively. The West African countries coping with Ebola today have neither.

With a United Nations health response led by the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the United States, Britain, France and other wealthy nations, the virus would be contained and the fatality rate — which, based on the most conservative estimates, exceeds 50 percent in the present outbreak — would drop dramatically, perhaps to below 20 percent.

We are at a dangerous moment in these three West African countries, all fragile states that have had strong economic growth in recent years after decades of wars and poor governance. It would be scandalous to let this crisis escalate further when we have the knowledge, tools and resources to stop it. Tens of thousands of lives, the future of the region and hard-won economic and health gains for millions hang in the balance.

Jim Yong Kim is president of the World Bank. Paul Farmer is the Kolokotronis University professor at Harvard University. Both are co-founders of the nonprofit organization Partners in Health. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## OPINION

## Look into ending investigatory police stops

BY CHARLES EPP  
AND STEVEN MAYNARD-MOODY

A recent Pew survey measured a vast gulf in how blacks and whites view the recent events in Ferguson, Mo. Eighty percent of blacks said that the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed, 18-year-old black, "raises important issues about race that need to be discussed." Only 37 percent of whites agreed. You might say that, to blacks, whites just don't get it.

After interviewing hundreds of drivers about their experiences in police stops, we can see why. Blacks experience not only more police stops than whites but also a completely different kind of stop. For many blacks, the stop of Michael Brown on a Ferguson street was all too reminiscent of ones they have experienced themselves — stops they feared could spiral into violence. Many black men may now be saying, "There but for the grace of God go I."

A thought experiment for white readers, drawn from actual examples from our interviews:

Suppose you are pulled over by a police officer while driving home from work. The officer doesn't say you were speeding or ran a red light. Instead, he asks where you're coming from and where you're going. While you answer, he looks around your car with a flashlight. Then he lets you go, with no ticket or further explanation. Five minutes later, another officer stops you and asks the same questions, only to let you go again.

Or suppose you are standing in a yard, in an ordinary working-class neighborhood, talking to your friends. An officer drives down the street, stops and approaches with a hand on his gun. "Nobody move!" he barks. "Keep your hands where I can see them and show me your IDs."

Or suppose you are driving home from

school with friends and an officer pulls you over. He tells you that you look like the suspects in a recent burglary, then handcuffs you all and makes you sit on the sidewalk to wait for a witness to arrive to look at you. After an hour, he lets you go with no explanation.

Now suppose you're black and that you've heard many stories like these from black friends and family members. How would you feel? We are confident it would be similar to the black drivers we interviewed: indignant, angry, even violated.

The incidents described above are called investigatory stops. Unlike traffic-safety stops, in which the purpose is to sanction safety violations, investigatory stops are intended to check whether a person is engaged in serious criminal activity. Our interviews revealed that while whites are quite familiar with traffic-safety stops, they have little experience with investigatory stops. But half of all stops reported by blacks were investigatory.

Investigatory stops can be tense, because people view them as unfair and fear what the officer may do next. They wonder: If an officer can handcuff me for an hour when all I did was drive through a white neighborhood, what is to prevent him from doing far worse? Black reports that they try to prevent escalation by quietly putting up with the officer's intrusions and teaching their children how to do the same. Police officers, too, recognize that these stops make people resentful and nervous, which in turn makes them edgy and poised to act forcefully to stay in control.

If we learn a crucial lesson from our interviews, it is that blacks fear that these tense, bitter interactions might spiral out of control into violence.

One black man told us he once asked an officer, "Why are you stopping me?" He said the officer responded by yelling, "Show me your hands, show me your hands."



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Yango Sawyer, of Washington, holds a sign during a rally outside the U.S. Department of Justice on Wednesday to call for an overhaul of law enforcement tactics in order to stop police brutality.

"He had his pistol pulled out," the man reported, "and I didn't even turn my head, but I could see it out of the peripheral vision of my eye, its barrel, and he pointed it right at my head. ... That was pretty frightening."

Police seek to justify investigatory stops as a way to fight crime proactively in high-crime areas, and it is true that these stops

occasionally uncover illegal drugs and weapons. But that comes at a cost of stopping large numbers of innocent people. This "numbers game," as police sometimes call it, sacrifices the dignity and trust of hundreds who are innocent to find one who is guilty.

There is a way forward: Rein in investigatory stops. Blacks resent not so much the police but a particular type of police activity.

They, like whites, accept police stops made for a clear violation and not as a pretext to question and search. A black man who has been stopped many times told us, "If I'm at the wrong, you know, I could admit to it. If I'm clocked speeding, and I know I was speeding, I can accept that. But not when I'm harassed or, like I said, I've had a gun drawn at me for any particular reason and he wanted me to step out of the car and raise my hands and all that."

Ending investigatory stops would make it possible to begin rebuilding trust, stop by stop. Hiring more black police officers is essential but in itself will not address the problem. Even racially diverse departments such as New York's have carried out far too many of these stops when that was the policy of police leadership.

The problem is not police stops — it is investigatory stops. Those stops poison blacks' attitudes toward the police — and toward the law itself. They undermine police effectiveness and turn the citizens of a democracy into the controlled — and resentful — subjects of a security state. It's time to end them.

Charles Epp and Steven Maynard-Moody are professors at the University of Kansas' School of Public Affairs and Administration. They are the co-authors, with Donald Haider-Markel, of "Pulled Over: How Police Stops Define Race and Citizenship." This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## Time for cooler negotiations between Obama, Putin

BY MARKOS KOUNALAKIS

Volcanoes and glaciers, fire and ice, are dominant features of this moonscape-pocked island nation. How fitting that more than a generation ago the leaders of the United States and Soviet Union came to talk disarmament in the heat of the Cold War.

Ballistic missile eruptions and a Soviet-supported Nuclear Freeze movement were all on the table here at Höfði, home of the testy U.S.-Soviet summit meeting between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. That chilly encounter resulted in disagreement and accusation, but it was a venue where positions were clarified, a measure of each man was taken, and, incredibly, the basis for a lasting nuclear treaty was catalyzed.

There was not much time for sightseeing for the global leaders; locals still complain that they never caught sight of Reagan as he was corralled into the spirited back and forth to the embassy residence. Their menus were not filled with the local Icelandic fare: the fermented shark and whale steaks. The leaders also missed going into the belly of a 4,500-year dormant volcano, down into the cone of fire and the cathedral of hardened lava, seeping around water dripping on visitors. But they had enough excitement ahead of them with the world on a constant nuclear brink.

Today, it is hard to imagine that the whole summit and the various arms control treaties that followed teetered on total failure because of an unproven, untested

technology derisively referred to as "Star Wars."

Our screens are now filled with YouTube or Vice.com streams showing Israeli "Iron Dome" interceptors and American "Patriot" missile batteries knocking out Hamas rockets or Scuds in midair. It seems dispiriting to think back to the historic October 1986 Reykjavik summit, where the negotiation sticking point was Reagan's plan to shoot offensive missiles out of the sky with defensive missiles.

His "Star Wars" dream — and others' nightmare — was imagined technologies known as Strategic Defense Initiative, or SDI, intended to make obsolete the superpower governing nuclear doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction, or MAD. Many of those imagined SDI technologies that detractors called fantasy and as improbable as "hitting a bullet with a bullet" are now a complex reality with varied degrees of success.

Over the last four decades, there have been significant advances in strategic defenses, many of them through work done at the University of California's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Whether surface-to-air antiballistic missiles, particle beams, radar tracking and homing vehicles, hypervelocity rail guns, X-ray lasers, infrared seeking Kinetic Kill Vehicles, "Brilliant Pebbles," or just upgraded versions of run-of-the-mill flak, the strategic approach that has made the greatest difference in achieving mutually assured security was not new. It was, in fact, respectful negotiation and a level of trust.

Reagan and Gorbachev proved they were more interested in a deal than a duel.

All negotiations should have at least an element of trust that each party will execute the terms of an agreement. To that end, Reagan would repeat the Russian maxim "trust, but verify" at every opportunity to remind everyone that his negotiations, while made in good faith, were never made naively.

Reagan's arms control director was Ken Adelman and his newly published book "Reagan at Reykjavik" brings readers back to that time, and this northernmost and otherworldly national capitol, when unprecedented nuclear weapons' controls and agreements were launched between the United States and the U.S.S.R.

Edelman reminds us that the talks were considered a failure at the time, but that the Reykjavik summit did succeed by allowing both superpower leaders to air their differences and point visions of their dreams — including Reagan's rogue attempt to completely eliminate nuclear weapons from the face of the Earth within a decade of the summit meeting. The final Intermediate Nuclear Forces deals, known as INF, were a direct result of those tense meetings and eventually sealed collaboration and joint understanding to lower the risks of confrontation. For some Russian elites today, that deal is seen as also having sealed Gorbachev's fate toward irrelevance and the Soviet empire's dissolution.

Russia is again a concern and the United States has accused it of violating the locally signed 1987 INF treaty by developing and

testing disallowed new cruise missiles. More seriously, Vladimir Putin's Russia has lopped off territory from a sovereign state and stealthily invaded Ukraine.

Negotiated de-escalation and disarmament seem the farthest thing from reality today. When the U.S. president regularly gets on the phone with Putin, the call is invariably characterized by mistrust, disrespect and the Russian leader's bald-faced lies. And when the call is over, hostilities in Ukraine continue to escalate. Miscalculation has already downed a commercial jetliner and could inadvertently — or calculatedly — cause a wider conflagration. There is a growing call for NATO intervention instead of speedy summitry and cooler heads.

In this explosive environment, presidents Barack Obama and Putin should find their way to remote and neutral territory to find a personal connection, recognize shared values and seek an honest, negotiated and verifiable way forward. In this year's State of the Union speech, Obama made an important general statement: "If John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan could negotiate with the Soviet Union, then surely a strong and confident America can negotiate with less powerful adversaries today."

There may be time for Mr. President to get off the Moscow hotline and head back to Iceland's cooler climes and significant symbolism.

Markos Kounalakis is a research fellow at Central European University and a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. This column first appeared in The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee.







## US OPEN/COLLEGE FOOTBALL/SPORTS BRIEFS

## Wozniacki wears down No. 5 Sharapova

By RACHEL COHEN  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Caroline Wozniacki trusts her stamina so much that she plans to return to New York in two months to run a marathon.

Maria Sharapova, usually the one wearing down opponents in the third set, sure couldn't keep up on a steamy Sunday at the U.S. Open. Wozniacki won 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in 2 hours, 37 minutes to get back to her first Grand Slam quarterfinal in more than two years — and get back in the headlines for reasons other than her personal life.

"The season for me has been a little bit up and down," she said in quite an understatement, "and it's so nice to kind of start feeling like I'm playing the way I want to."

Because of the heat, the players received a 10-minute break before the final set; Sharapova returned to the court late, arguing with the chair umpire after receiving a time violation warning. Perhaps sensing that she was fresher than the five-time major champion, Wozniacki later complained that Sharapova was dawdling between points.

Her tardiness seemed to swing the Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd's support squarely in Wozniacki's favor. When the 10th-seeded Dane broke Sharapova at love to go up 3-1 in the final set, she got a

standing ovation from the fans and waved her arms to egg them on. Sharapova had appeared to hit a winner three times on that game's final point only for Wozniacki to somehow chase down the ball. Finally, Sharapova put a volley into the net.

Wozniacki mixed in just enough aggression with her signature defense to keep the pressure on Sharapova in the final set.

"She's very good at getting a lot of balls back and making you hit another one," Sharapova said. "In the end, I went for a little too much."

She insisted the conditions didn't bother her. Sharapova had been 17-6 in three-set matches this year, including her comeback-behind second-round victory here.

The fifth-seeded Sharapova's loss leaves No. 1 Serena Williams as the only woman remaining of the top six. Ninth-seeded Jelena Jankovic was also upset, losing 7-6 (6), 6-3 to 17-year-old Swiss Belinda Bencic.

With mentor Martina Hingis cheering from the stands, Bencic became the youngest U.S. Open quarterfinalist since Hingis herself in 1997.

Wozniacki said she told herself before the third set to go for her shots.

"If I'm going to lose," she recalled thinking, "at least I'm going to do it with dignity."

She closed out the match by breaking

Sharapova's serve again with a backhand winner. About a half-hour later, thunderstorms halted play with second-seeded Roger Federer down a break in the first set to Marcel Granollers.

Federer acknowledged the two-hour delay helped him regroup. While Granollers won the first set, Federer dominated the rest of the way, winning 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-1.

Unlike the women's draw, the men's side didn't lose a top-10 player until Sunday, when fourth-seeded David Ferrer was upset by Gilles Simon in the third round 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3. Sixth-seeded Tomas Berdych and No. 7 Grigor Dimitrov also advanced.

Dominic Thiem, 20, made his first Grand Slam round of 16 with a straight-set win over 19th-seeded Feliciano Lopez. Another first was achieved in the women's draw by Peng Shuai, who had never been to a major quarterfinal before beating 14th-seeded Lucie Safarova 6-3, 6-4.

Wozniacki will next face 13th-seeded Sara Errani, who ended the run of qualifier Mirjana Lucic-Baroni with a three-set victory.

As a 19-year-old, Wozniacki made the 2009 U.S. Open final, losing to Kim Clijsters, and reached No. 1 in the world the next year. But she hadn't been back to a Grand Slam quarterfinal since the 2012 Australian Open.



KATHY WILLEMS/AP

**No. 10 Caroline Wozniacki outlasted No. 5 Maria Sharapova 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 on a steamy day in the third round of the U.S. Open on Sunday.**

In the meantime, she was best known for getting engaged to star golfer Rory McIlroy — then getting dumped in late May after wedding invitations had gone out.

Wozniacki also announced a month ago that she planned to run the New York City Marathon on Nov. 2 for charity.



LM OTTER/AP

**Baylor quarterback Bryce Petty went 13-for-23 with two touchdowns in Sunday's 45-0 win over SMU.**

## Baylor wins stadium debut

By STEPHEN HAWKINS  
The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Baylor's new stadium opened to rave reviews. The 10th-ranked Bears looked pretty good, too.

Bryce Petty accounted for three touchdowns in the first half and Baylor's smothering defense had eight sacks in a 45-0 victory over SMU at sparkling McLane Stadium along the Brazos River.

"That's what it has been all about ... just unveiling the stadium and the atmosphere," coach Art Briles said. "There were some distractions. I don't think I have ever coached in a bigger game."

On the day a statue of Robert Griffin III was dedicated, Petty extended his streak with at least

one touchdown pass to a school-record 14 games, breaking a tie with Baylor's only Heisman Trophy winner.

Griffin was on hand for the Bears' first game on campus since 1935. After Sunday's statue dedication more than three hours before kickoff, the Washington Redskins quarterback was on the field before the game. He gave the invocation and took part in the opening coin toss with former President George W. Bush.

Once the game got started, Petty took a bruising shot to his lower back on Baylor's first offensive drive. The reigning Big 12 offensive player of the year then moved gingerly at times, often grabbing at his back and side be-

tween plays. He did not play in the second half.

"It's nothing that serious. Everything's good," Petty insisted afterward. "I'm already feeling a lot better."

While he missed on a couple of passes he would usually complete, Petty was 13-for-23 for 161 yards and two touchdowns. He also ran for a score that made it 31-0.

"He had a couple of throws — he had guys in space and missed them. We knew something was wrong, that's not Bryce at all," Briles said.

Along with Petty getting hurt, top receiver Antwan Goodley did not play after the first quarter because of a tight quad that also bothered him during fall camp.

## Briefly

## Source: Chiefs give QB Smith \$68M extension

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — When he was traded to the Kansas City Chiefs last offseason, quarterback Alex Smith professed his admiration for coach Andy Reid and his excitement at playing for the storied franchise.

Now, he could have that opportunity for at least four more years.

Smith signed a \$68 million extension Sunday to remain with the Chiefs through the 2018 season, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team did not disclose the terms of the contract.

Smith, who is due \$7.5 million this season, will receive \$45 million in new guarantees.

"It was a priority of ours to get this deal done and keep Alex in a Chiefs uniform long term," Chiefs general manager John Dorsey said in a statement.

## Patriots trade backup QB Mallett to Texans

The Patriots traded former Tom Brady backup Ryan Mallett to the Houston Texans on Sunday, elevating Jimmy Garoppolo to the No. 2 job behind the two-time NFL MVP.

Garoppolo was a second-round pick in this year's Draft.

Mallett was 14-for-26 for 161 yards and a touchdown this preseason, and his fate seemed decided when Garoppolo played the entire exhibition finale on Thursday against the New York Giants.

## Henley takes lead at Deutsche Bank

NORTON, Mass. — Russell Henley made five birdies in a seven-hole stretch Sunday and had a 6-under 65 to take a one-shot lead in the Deutsche Bank Championship.

World's No. 1 Rory McIlroy had a 64 and was two shots off the lead at the TPC Boston heading into the Labor Day finish. Jason Day (69) and Chris Kirk (64) also were two behind.

In other golf news:

■ Austin Ernst won the LPGA Tour's Portland Classic with a par on the first hole of a playoff against South Korea's I.K. Kim.

It was the first professional victory for the 22-year-old Ernst, who shot a 5-under 67 in the final round to get to 14 under at Columbia Edgewater. Kim carded a 68.

■ Fred Couples won the Champions Tour's Shaw Charity Classic, chipping in for eagle for a course-record 9-under 61 and beating Billy Andrade with a tap-in birdie on the first hole of a playoff.

## US rallies past Turkey at World Cup

BILBAO, Spain — Kenneth Davis scored 22 points, Anthony Davis all of his 19 in the second half, and the U.S. rebounded from a rare deficit at halftime to beat Turkey 98-77 on Sunday in the Basketball World Cup. The U.S. trailed 40-35 at halftime.



# AUTO RACING/NFL



DAVID TULLIS/AP

Sprint Cup Series driver Kasey Kahne does a burnout after winning Sunday's Sprint Cup race at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

## Kahne holds off Kenseth for win

### Fourth Hendrick driver to earn spot in Chase

By CHARLES ODUM  
The Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. — There is pressure that comes with being part of the powerful Hendrick Motorsports team with NASCAR superstars Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr. For Kasey Kahne, the pressure grew as he feared he would be the only driver on the team left out of the Chase for the Sprint Cup.

That changed when Kahne earned his spot in the Chase by charging past Matt Kenseth and Denny Hamlin in a two-lap shoot-out to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Sunday night.

"That was just an unbelievable way to make the Chase," Kahne said.

Meanwhile, Tony Stewart's much-anticipated return to racing ended a little more than half-way through the race.

Stewart hit the wall for the second time after his right front tire blew out on Lap 172, ending his night with a 41st-place finish.

After Atlanta, next week's race at Richmond would have been Kahne's final chance to earn his spot in the Chase.

"It was all I could think about," Kahne said. "I knew Atlanta was a better opportunity for myself than going out to Richmond. I just knew that tonight we needed it."

Rick Hendrick beamed after



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Sprint Cup Series driver Kasey Kahne celebrates after his win on Sunday at Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga.

the race as he talked about his team's chances in the Chase. Gordon, who finished 17th, still leads the points race. Earnhardt, who was 11th, is second. Johnson, who finished fourth in Atlanta, is sixth.

"I think we've got better balance this year than we've had in the past," Hendrick said.

Johnson, Earnhardt and Gordon celebrated with Kahne on the victory stand.

"I looked up and saw them all standing there and I was really proud of the organization when I saw that happen," Hendrick said.

It was Kahne's first win of the season and his third career victory in Atlanta.

## Joint: Starters seeing reduced play in preseason thanks to intense practices

### FROM BACK PAGE

Houston coach Bill O'Brien and Denver coach John Fox figured they'd given their starters plenty of work during three days of intense joint practices during the week.

So, some stars made cameo appearances — if that — and nearly every starter was a sideline spectator by the second-half kickoff.

"Any team will tell you that once you get your full squad together, that's really what you're looking for," Watt said. "But it's the preseason and the main thing is getting to the regular season healthy."

Dialing things back in the third preseason game might just be a blueprint for handling the preseason in the future. And joint practices are the perfect substitute for those snaps the starters are missing.

Joint practices have been a staple of the NFL for years, but they've become more popular since the 2011 collective bargaining agreement put an end to the old two-a-days in full gear and limited practice time and the amount of hitting that's allowed.

Training almost year-round with nutritional programs and cutting edge technologies and techniques means players no longer have to use the preseason to build up strength and stamina.

Instead, veterans can get situational snaps at practice and then watch players on the bubble play on game day because now it's all about getting through August without a trip to the trainer's room or doctor's office.

Nearly half of the league's 32 teams practiced against another team this summer.

Some, like the Patriots and Texans, practiced against multiple opponents. The Harbaugh brothers got the 49ers and Ravens together following their preseason game.

Washington coach Jay Gruden said joint practices are a good way to get the veterans necessary work because with "every team in the NFL, the No. 1 unit is limited" in the preseason as it is.

Ratcheting up the intensity during the dog days of August is a good way to break the monotony of training camp, indoctrinate the rookies and get a better gauge on players.

"When you're seeing the same guys day in and day out, sometimes you get jaded. When you go against another team, I think it gives you a fresh perspective on where you are," said Titans first-year coach Ken Whisenand, who took his team to Georgia in a quick workout against the Falcons.

Joint practices have inherent drawbacks, though.

"There are going to be fights," Denver left tackle Ryan Clady said. "It's kind of the nature of the game."

When the Cowboys and Raiders got together for a spirited joint session this month, Dallas coach



JACK DEMPSEY/AP

Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning, left, and Houston Texans free safety Kendrick Lewis shake hands following a joint practice between the Broncos and Texans last month.

Jason Garrett called it "as electric an atmosphere as I have been on, on a practice field, really in my life." Oakland coach Dennis Allen said he almost had to quiet down the crowd at times "just so we could get some plays off."

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones didn't mind the two brawls that broke out, either.

"Seriously, that passion, that's mostly what I'd hoped what we would get out of getting these teams together," Jones said.

The Texans and Broncos had several skirmishes during their six hours of officiated practices.

"It's football, there's testosterone out here and people get excited," Watt said. "Practicing with each other for three days, we're professional athletes, guys get excited, get a little antsy so that's fine."

The bad blood boiled over into the game when Manning was whistled for the first taunting foul of his career.

After throwing a touchdown pass to Emmanuel Sanders just before halftime, he rushed up to safety D.J. Swearinger, who was at the center of several scrums last week and whose hard hit one play earlier left Wes Welker with a concussion.

"The week had something to do with it," Swearinger said. "The hit right before that had some-

thing to do with it, so it's all football, bro."

Joint practices will probably become even more popular if the NFL adopts an 18-game regular season and chops the four-game preseason in half.

What made the Texans-Broncos workouts unusual was the timing.

Teams usually get together early in camp, not this late.

The Broncos figure to be hosting opponents for joint practices in the future now that their \$35 million indoor practice facility is nearing completion. It has hot tubs, locker rooms, classrooms. And Fox said he's open to doing this again, even this late in the preseason.

"The time doesn't concern me," Fox said. "We will evaluate, but my feeling right now is yes."

One coach who won't jump on the bandwagon is Kansas City's Andy Reid, who doesn't want opponents gleaming any morsel from his team.

"I've never been that big on it," Reid said. "I know a lot of teams do it, a lot of successful teams do it. I just don't want to give anyone anything that I don't have to give."

AP Pro Football Writer Teresa Walker and AP Sports Writers Josh Dubow, Howard Ullman, Joseph White, Charles Odom, Dave Ginsburg and Dave Skretta contributed.

## NFL PREVIEW

## AFC EAST

Brady, Patriots  
are always there

Constant turnover separates division rivals

By DENNIS WASZAK JR.  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tom Brady has seen plenty of other quarterbacks come and go in the AFC East.

While the faces across the sideline keep changing, Brady has been a constant since leading the New England Patriots to a Super Bowl title during the 2001 season. Now, at 37 years old, Brady is still everything the New York Jets, Miami Dolphins and Buffalo Bills have been searching for.

Namely, a franchise quarterback.

"I've been lucky to do something I really love to do," Brady said. "I'd love to keep doing it, so that's a great motivation for me to come out. Where else would I rather be? This is a lot better than any cubicle I probably thought of. It's a pretty good office."

Since Brady took over as the Patriots' starter, the Jets have had nine quarterbacks start. Meanwhile, the Bills have had 11 and the Dolphins a whopping 16.

Given the constant turnover everywhere else, it's no coincidence the Patriots have won 11 of the last 13 division titles. The exceptions: 2002, when New York won it, and 2008, when Brady missed 15 games with a knee injury and Miami won.

All three of the Patriots' rivals think they might be on to something as far as setting up their futures under center. Miami's Ryan Tannehill enters his third season, while New York's Geno Smith and

Buffalo's EJ Manuel are going into their second.

"I think that's obviously your chief rival and your biggest enemy," the Jets' Rex Ryan said of the Patriots. "You probably respect them more than anybody, but you also at the same time know you don't like them."

"They've earned what we're looking at, and that's to win that division."

Here are some things to know about the AFC East:

**Brady's bunch:** The Patriots' offense should get a big boost with the return of tight end Rob Gronkowski. The health of one of Brady's favorite targets will be a big story line after he had surgery on his right knee in January. He's aiming to play in all 16 games this season after he missed the first six last year following back and forearm surgeries. He played the next seven, but hurt his knee and missed the rest of the season.

The Patriots should be improved on defense after signing free agents Darrelle Revis and Jerod Mayo and defensive tackles Vince Wilfork and Tommy Kelly.

**Searing Jets?** Ryan and offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg are giving Smith every opportunity to establish himself as the team's quarterback for now



BILL WIPPET/AP

Tom Brady has been the Patriots starting quarterback since the 2001 season. In that time, New England's AFC East rivals have had at least nine starting quarterbacks, including Miami's 16.

and beyond, even with Michael Vick on the roster.

The Jets haven't made the playoffs in three seasons, so there's pressure on Ryan to build on last year's 8-8 finish. While Smith has shown flashes, the Jets won't hesitate to pull him if he struggles and plug in Vick. Regardless of who's under center, the offense should be improved with the additions of wide receiver Eric Decker and running back Chris Johnson.

The Jets' front seven on defense should be among the league's best, led by linemen Muhammad Wilkerson and Sheldon Richardson, the 2013 Defensive Rookie of the Year. The biggest question will be the secondary, where second-year cornerback Dee Milliner and veteran Dimitri Patterson are expected to be starters but have been banged-up.

**New-look Dolphins:** Miami is trying to put the bullying scandal that rocked the franchise and the rest of the league far behind.

Joe Philbin is back as coach, but GM Jeff Ireland was fired and replaced by Dennis Hickey. One of the Dolphins' top concerns was to keep Tannehill more upright — and give him the opportunity to get the ball to Mike Wallace more often — after Miami allowed an NFL-high 58 sacks. Left tackle Brandon Albert was signed to improve protection. RB Knowshon Moreno, if healthy, should also help new coordinator Bill Lazor's offense.

Free agent cornerback Cortland Finnegan, paired with hold-over Brent Grimes, should bolster a secondary that was middle of the pack last season.

**Bumbling Bills:** Buffalo hasn't

won the division since 1995, and the Bills' 14-season playoff drought is the NFL's longest active streak.

That's a trend second-year coach Doug Marrone is eager to end, especially during a season in which there's uncertainty with team ownership after the death of owner Ralph Wilson. The Bills brought in several new pieces — Sammy Watkins, Mike Williams, Anthony Dixon and Bryce Brown — to help Manuel try to prove himself. His development last season was slowed by knee injuries that limited him to 10 games.

The defense, under new coordinator Jim Schwartz, is a strength, despite linebacker Kiko Alonso being out for the season with a torn knee ligament, and losing safety Jarius Byrd to free agency.

## Team capsules in predicted order of finish

## New England Patriots



**New faces:** CB Darrelle Revis, RB Chris Johnson, WR Brandon LaFell, LB James Anderson, rookie DL Dominique Easley.

**Key losses:** CB Aqib Talib, RB LeGarrette Blount, S Steve Gregory, LB Brandon

Spikes.

**Strengths:** QB, CB, LB, TE.

**Weaknesses:** OL, S.

**What's New:** Patriots have great depth at cornerback with addition of Revis and Browner. At safety, they must replace Gregory, who was not re-signed and retired. Veteran offensive line could change with impressive youngsters Jordan Deway and Bryan Stortz. LaFell should help receiving corps.

**Expectations:** Patriots remain class of AFC East after reaching conference championship game. Defense is upgraded with Revis and Browner and with LB Jerod Mayo and DTs Vince Wilfork and Tommy Kelly returning from injuries that sidelined them most of last season. Tom Brady-led offenses would get big boost if TE Rob Gronkowski returns to form after knee surgery in January.

## New York Jets



**New Faces:** WR Eric Decker, RB Chris Johnson, QB Michael Vick, RT Breno Giacomini, CB Dimitri Patterson, LB Jason Babin, rookie S Calvin Pryor, rookie TE Jacob Amaroe.

**Key Losses:** CB Antonio Cromartie, WR Santonio Holmes, RT Austin Howard, TE Kellen Winslow Jr., WR-KR Josh Cribbs.

**Strengths:** DL, ILB, RB, K.

**Weaknesses:** CB, QB, WR.

**What's New:** Jets trying to get Smith to be more comfortable using legs on plays to make things happen when options fall downfield. Smith doesn't have Vick's speed or elusiveness, but actually led Jets with six TDs rushing last season. OC Marty Mornhinweg could implement more read-option or wildcard plays.

**Expectations:** A lot will hinge on whether Smith can make significant leap organization is hoping for, or Rex Ryan could be looking for new job and Jets searching for next QB. Smith will be counted on to reverse dismal run — 12 TDs, 21 INTs — from rookie year. Additions of Decker and Johnson give Smith viable playmakers.

## Miami Dolphins



**New faces:** LT Brandon Albert, DT Earl Mitchell, S Louis Delmas, RB Knowshon Moreno, OG Shelley Smith, CB Cortland Finnegan.

**Key losses:** DT Paul Soliai, OT Richie Incognito, CB

Nolan Carroll, OL John Jerry, S Chris Clemons.

**Strengths:** DL, WR, CB.

**Weaknesses:** LB, OL.

**What's New:** Dolphins more than just tweaked offensive and defensive schemes in offseason. Offensive coordinator Bill Lazor is implementing plenty of motion into attack, all designed to bring out strengths of QB Ryan Tannehill. Defensively, Miami has to be better against run after giving up 1,998 yards on ground.

**Expectations:** Bullying scandal that overshadowed last season is over, which means locker room should be better place. What happens on field, that's still in doubt. Miami has made one playoff trip in last 12 years, and hasn't won playoff game since 2000. If Lazor's offense clicks quickly, that could change.

## Buffalo Bills



**New faces:** WR's rookie Sammy Watkins and Mike Williams, LBs Brandon Brown and Keith Rivers, DB Corey Graham, RB Bryce Brown, defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz.

**Key losses:** LB Kiko Alonso, S Jarius Byrd, WR Stevie Johnson, defensive coordinator Mike Pettine, Hall of Fame owner Ralph Wilson.

**Strengths:** DL, RB, WR.

**Weaknesses:** CB, OL, S.

**What's New:** Defense switching to more conventional 4-3 scheme under Schwartz, former Lions coach who took over after Pettine left to become Browns head coach. Though Bills set franchise record with 57 sacks last season, they struggled stopping run by allowing 150-plus yards rushing seven times. Schwartz's defenses have solid track record against run, and addition of Spikes in middle should help plug holes.

**Expectations:** Bills hope to end NFL's longest current playoff drought of 14 seasons, but have plenty of work just to get out of AFC East cellar.

— The Associated Press

## NFL PREVIEW

## AFC NORTH

## Teams prefer the slow, steady approach

## Division intends to regain reputation as league's best

By JOE KAY

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — They do things a little differently in the AFC North.

They're patient with their coaches and quarterbacks — well, with the exception of Cleveland, which is in a league of its own when it comes to change.

They develop a style and stick with it, win or lose.

And it's worked.

The AFC North is coming off what amounts to a down year for the NFL's most successful division over the past six years. Only one team reached the playoffs, Cincinnati, which lost in the opening round for the third year in a row.

The Bengals' response? Give the coach and the quarterback contract extensions.

"You see some of the teams in the North, just the way they go about the game is a little different from some teams across the league," Bengals offensive tackle Andrew Whitworth said.

Defending champion Cincinnati has undergone the fewest offseason changes, aiming for a franchise-record fourth straight trip to the playoffs. The Steelers and Ravens have adjusted their rosters, but stayed with their overriding philosophies.

And then there's Cleveland, where the only thing that hasn't got lost in the shuffle is the non-stop losing.

Here are some things to know

about the AFC North:

**The dominant division:** No other division has sent as many teams to the playoffs over the last six years. A dozen teams reached the postseason over that span, two more than any other division. The North's streak of five straight years with multiple playoff teams ended last season.

Northerners have reached the Super Bowl three times over that span, claiming two titles. Last year was the first time since the 2009 season that the North didn't get at least one playoff victory.

**Andy's time:** No quarterback in the division will be under more scrutiny than Andy Dalton, who has been as good as it gets during the regular season, and at his very worst in the playoffs. The Bengals gave him a six-year contract extension even though he's 0-3 in the postseason.

He fell apart during the second half of a 27-10 playoff loss to San Diego last season. The Bengals haven't won a playoff game since 1990, tied for the sixth-longest streak of futility in league history.

"The guys have stuck with me from the time that I've been here," Dalton said. "I had to earn their respect at the beginning and now I feel like I have their respect. Yeah, the [playoff] game didn't go how we wanted it to. I was a big part of the reason why we lost."

**Let Ben be Ben:** The Steelers went 6-2 down the stretch to stay in playoff contention last season before finishing 8-8, missing out on the postseason for the second



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

**Despite an 0-3 record in the playoffs, the Cincinnati Bengals gave quarterback Andy Dalton a six-year, \$115 million contract extension that will keep the signal caller in Cincinnati through the 2020 season.**

year in a row. The Steelers gave two-time Super Bowl champion Ben Roethlisberger more freedom in a no-huddle offense during the late season and will be looking for more of the same.

Only seven players were left from their last Super Bowl title team when they opened camp.

**Run, Ravens, run:** The Ravens had one of those miserable Super Bowl follow-up seasons. After beating San Francisco for the title after the 2012 season, they lost linebacker Ray Lewis to retirement, then won only eight games as their offense fell apart.

Joe Flacco threw 19 touch-

downs and 22 interceptions while getting sacked a career-high 48 times. Ray Rice managed only 660 yards as the Ravens finished 30th in rushing — last in yards per carry. Baltimore brought in Gary Kubiak as offensive coordinator. Rice will miss the first two games under suspension for his arrest on a domestic violence charge.

Kubiak has Flacco moving around more in the pocket, but it's the running game that will decide whether the Ravens can shake off their only non-playoff season since coach John Harbaugh took over in 2008.

**The Browns way:** While the

rest of the division hangs onto its quarterbacks and coaches, the Browns do things their way. Since 1999, they've had seven full-time coaches and 20 starting quarterbacks.

Cleveland was revved up by Johnny Manziel's arrival, stoking hopes the team finally had a franchise quarterback, but he failed to win the starting job in camp. He did gain national attention, though, for raising his middle finger toward the Washington bench in a preseason game.

Johnny Football already knows what it's like to be frustrated in constantly changing Cleveland.

## Team capsules in predicted order of finish

## Cincinnati Bengals



**New faces:** Rookies RB Jeremy Hill, C Russell Bodine, CB Darqueze Dennard; QB Jason Campbell.  
**Key losses:** DE Michael Johnson, OT Anthony Collins, defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer, offensive coordinator Jay Gruden.

**Strengths:** WR, RB, DL, LB, CB.  
**Weaknesses:** S, OL.

**What's New:** Bodine, a fourth-round pick, takes over at center. Hill, taken in second round, will team with Giovani Bernard in backfield, giving Bengals backs who can catch passes. New offensive coordinator Hue Jackson wants to pick up pace. New defensive coordinator Paul Guenther wants to get more pressure on QBs.

**Expectations:** Bengals have reached playoffs in each of the past three seasons, the first time the franchise has accomplished that feat. Retained core of team and added to it, giving them deepest roster in coach Marvin Lewis' 12 seasons in Cincinnati. They're favored for another AFC North title, but season will be another by winning in playoffs. They're 0-3 in past three seasons and haven't won playoff game since 1990, tied for sixth-longest drought in NFL history.

## Pittsburgh Steelers



**New faces:** S Mike Mitchell, WR Lance Moore; rookies LB Ryan Shazier, DT Stephen Tuitt; RB LeGarrette Blount, offensive line coach Mike Munchak.

**Key losses:** S Ryan Clark, LB LaMarr Woodley, WR Jerrold Johnson, RB Emmanuel Sanders, DE Ziggy Hood, RB coach Kirby Wilson.

**Strengths:** QB, OL, K.  
**Weaknesses:** DE, DT.  
**What's New:** QB Ben Roethlisberger and offensive coordinator Todd Haley have reached destiny entering third year of partnership, with Haley giving Roethlisberger more freedom to call plays out of expanded no-huddle offense when Steelers pick up pace. Addition of RB Blount should take some of workload off Le'Veon Bell, though those two backed off themselves no favors when they were cued for marijuana possession on Aug. 20.

**Expectations:** Steelers have spent past two years rebuilding on fly. Results were pair of 8-8 seasons that constitute downsizing for one of NFL's most consistent winners. Only four of 22 projected starters will be in their 30s when season starts. Coach Mike Tomlin believes youngsters can play. If Steelers want to work into January, they'll have to.

## Baltimore Ravens



**New faces:** Offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak, WR Steve Smith, TE Owen Daniels, rookie LB C.J. Mosely, C Jeremy Zuttah, S Darian Stewart.

**Key losses:** DL Arthur Jones, OT Michael Oher, CB Corey Graham, S James Ihedigbo, TE Ed Dickson.

**Strengths:** QB, WR, TE, LB.  
**Weaknesses:** RB, OL, DB.  
**What's New:** Ravens hope to open up offense under former Houston Texans coach Gary Kubiak, who has installed his own version of the West Coast attack designed to protect quarterback Joe Flacco and improve running game that ranked last in NFL in yards per carry. Flacco was sacked 48 times last year and had more interceptions (22) than touchdown passes (19) as the Ravens missed the playoffs after winning the Super Bowl in 2012.

**Expectations:** Baltimore missed postseason last year for first time in coach John Harbaugh's six seasons. Ravens expect to get back into playoffs, but it's going to take improvement by defense that lacks depth and more production from offense that will start untested Rick Wagner at RT.

## Cleveland Browns



**New faces:** Coach Mike Pettine, offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan, GM Ray Farmer, QBs Johnny Manziel (rookie) and Rex Grossman, Ben Tate, WRs Miles Austin, Ben Burleson and Andrew Hawkins, LB Carlos Dansby,

S Dontle Whitner, rookie CB Justin Gilbert, OLS Paul McClellan and rookie Joe Bitonio, TE Jim Gray.  
**Key losses:** LBs D'Qwell Jackson and Quentin Groves, S T.J. Ward, WRs Greg Little and Davone Bess, QBs Brandon Weeden and Jason Campbell, G Shawn Lauva.

**Strengths:** OL, DB, DL.  
**Weaknesses:** WR, QB, RB.  
**What's New:** Just about everything for new head coach Pettine. QB Brian Hoyer beat out Manziel in camp, but may not have much time before rookie takes over. Browns will lean heavily on zone-blocked running game and attacking defense.

**Expectations:** Manziel wasn't drafted in first round to sit, and stadium full of No. 2 jerseys — and impatient owner Jimmy Haslam — could pressure Pettine to play Johnny Football quickly. Cleveland has made one playoff appearance since 1999 and second one doesn't appear imminent.

— The Associated Press



## NFL PREVIEW

## AFC SOUTH

## Colts ready to defend title

By TERESA M. WALKER  
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Chasing the Indianapolis Colts never has been easy in the AFC South.

First, the Titans, Jaguars and Texans all tried, and failed, to slow down Peyton Manning. Now, Andrew Luck has taken his turn atop the division.

"You know when you have a great player like Andrew at quarterback that everyone's going to set the bar high for achievement," Colts owner Jim Irsay said.

"So we won the division, we won a playoff game, and now it's just a question of trying to get deeper. But the first goal, of course, is to try to win the division and that's going to be tough. It's a tough division, all three teams have improved. But I really think the mindset and the atmosphere and the desire to win a championship is there."

The Colts have won eight of the last 11 division titles. The Titans feel they are oh so close after losing twice to Indianapolis last season by a combined 10 points while using a backup quarterback. New Titans coach Ken Whisenhunt has also shaken up the Tennessee franchise from top to bottom.

Whisenhunt wants to host a playoff game, so the Titans are targeting the defending AFC South champs.

"That's what's important for us right now," Whisenhunt said.

Here are some things to know about the AFC South:

**Dominating Colts:** Luck now has his first division title since replacing Manning, and the Colts have had a whole offseason to work Trent Richardson into the offense. Luck goes into his third season after that incredible rally

from 28 points down to beat Kansas City in the playoffs. He has Hakeem Nicks as a new target.

But Reggie Wayne has to prove he can return from a torn right ACL at age 35. Injuries already are starting to accumulate, with four players lost for the season, including starting left guard Donald Thomas. Coach Chuck Pagano, who patched together the offensive line last season, has a rookie at right guard, a center and left guard going into their second seasons. The Colts will be without last year's sacks leader Robert Mathis on Sept. 28 when the Titans visit — the end of his four-game suspension.

**Titanic changes:** Tennessee beat out Detroit to hire the man who took Arizona to the Super Bowl. Whisenhunt has made changes throughout the building and hired Ray Horton as his defensive coordinator to improve a team that went 7-9 last season, losing twice in overtime, with two other losses by a combined five points.

One of Whisenhunt's biggest challenges is Jake Locker. The quarterback has missed 14 games as a starter in two seasons, and the Titans didn't pick up his option for 2015. They bolstered the offensive line by signing right tackle Michael Oher and drafting tackle Taylor Lewan; the Titans have given Locker as many options as they've had in years. Dexter McCuller and rookie running back Bishop Sankey replaced Chris Johnson and join receivers Kendall Wright, Nate Washington and Justin Hunter.

**Hello Houston:** The Texans' Super Bowl dreams disappeared in a stunning 2-14 collapse that tied for the worst record in franchise history. That's why Bill O'Brien is the other new coach in this di-

vision, and he starts off working with a quarterback Tennessee cut in March. Ryan Fitzpatrick completed 62 percent of his passes in Tennessee, but had only two more touchdowns (14) than interceptions (12). Fitzpatrick also had trouble holding onto the ball, losing two of nine fumbles.

How much help Fitzpatrick gets remains to be seen. Back surgery ended Ariyan Foster's season after eight games, and both he and receiver Andre Johnson were sidelined most of training camp by injured hamstrings. The Texans used the top draft pick overall not on a quarterback but on defense with Jadeveon Clowney.

**Rebuilding Jaguars:** The biggest offseason additions were the drafting of Blake Bortles third overall, and the world's largest video boards in the stadium renovation also featuring pools and cabanas. Coach Gus Bradley and general manager Dave Caldwell keep insisting Bortles will learn behind Chad Henne so the rookie learns the playbook and can make a smooth transition from the spread offense at UCF to a pro system. Bortles may force their hand.

The Jaguars still need healthy receivers and must settle down an offensive line where three young players could start. Luke Joeckel, the second overall pick last year, now is at left tackle, with rookie Brandon Linder likely at right guard. Third-year pro Mike Brewster is battling journeyman Jacques McClouden at center.

**Big finish:** The Colts visit Tennessee on Dec. 28 in the regular-season finale, while Jacksonville is at Houston to wrap up the season. Will Indy be trying to stave off the Titans in that matchup?

AP Sports Writers Michael Marot and Mark Long contributed to this story.



Sam Ritchie/AP

**With a deep group of receivers, two workhorse running backs — including Trent Richardson, above, two versatile tight ends who can stay on the field for each play and a more confident defense, the defending AFC South champion Colts may finally have the right combination to challenge for the conference championship.**

## Team capsules in predicted order of finish

## Indianapolis Colts



**New faces:** Coach Mike Adams, LB D'Qwell Jackson, DL Arthur Jones, OL Lance Louis, OL Jack Mewhort, WR Hakeem Nicks.

**Key losses:** LB Pat Angerer, RB Vick Ballard, S Antoine Bethea, RB Donald Brown, OL Mike McGlynn, C Samson Satele, OG Donald Thomas.

**Strengths:** QB, WR, TE.

**Weaknesses:** LB, RB, S.

**What's New:** With tight end Dwayne Allen back, Colts can create mismatches for opponents, and they'll make it even tougher by going no-huddle more often. Defensively, Indy appears vastly improved at linebacker and is finding ways to pressure opposing quarterbacks even without reigning NFL sacks champion Robert Mathis playing in preseason.

**Expectations:** After making playoffs in 2012, winning AFC South and a wild-card round playoff game last year, Indy anticipates taking next step — challenging Denver and New England for AFC supremacy. Having league's easiest schedule certainly helps. But coach Chuck Pagano has never needed words about this goal: He wants Super Bowl title.

## Tennessee Titans



**New faces:** Coach Ken Whisenhunt, defensive coordinator Ray Horton, RT Michael Oher, RB Dexter McCuller, LBS Wesley Woodyard and Shaun Phillips.

LT Taylor Lewan and RB Bishop Sankey.

**Key losses:** Coach Mike Munchak, RB Chris Johnson, CB Alterraun Verner, K Rob Bironas, QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, WR Kenny Britt.

**Strengths:** Coach, WR, TE, RB, OL.

**Weaknesses:** DL, K.

**What's New:** Horton is transitioning Titans from 4-3 to 3-4 scheme. Whisenhunt brought in his offense and will be calling plays. He'll free McCuller and WR Kenny Britt from simply working slot and use them in as many positions as possible. Titans are going with running back by committee approach with Johnson now with Jets.

**Expectations:** Titans have sights set on first playoff berth since 2008. But for all Whisenhunt's changes, Titans will go as Locker goes. Quarterback must stay on field most, if not all, of season in final year of rookie contract. Horton also must show new defensive scheme can work with most of the same pieces left from last year.

## Jacksonville Jaguars



**New faces:** DE Chris Clemens, DE Red Bryant, RB Toby Gerhart, rookies QB Blake Bortles, WR Marqise Lee.

**Key losses:** RB Maurice Jones-Drew, DE Jason Babine, C Brad Meester, OL

coach George Yarno.

**Strengths:** DL, WR, TE.

**Weaknesses:** OL, QB.

**What's New:** Jaguars still in rebuilding mode, but have reason for hope with Bortles, Lee and other youngsters played in preseason. Chad Henne will be under center for opener, with Bortles waiting to take over and possibly give franchise its first big-time quarterback in more than a decade.

**Expectations:** Jaguars lost first eight games by double digits last season, a historically inept start that showed how far they had to go in coach Gus Bradley's first year. Being more competitive — close games in fourth quarter — is next step in team's progression.

## Houston Texans



**New faces:** Coach Bill O'Brien, QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, S Chris Clemens, S Kendrick Lewis, NT Jerrrell Powe, top overall pick DE-LB Jadeveon Clowney.

**Key losses:** QB Matt Jones-Drew, RB Ben Tate, S Danial Manning, TE Owen Daniels.

**Strengths:** DL, WR, LB, P.

**Weaknesses:** QB, S.

**What's New:** Bill O'Brien will call plays, but trusts Fitzpatrick enough to let him change plays at line. Texans have shown multiple tight end sets in practice. Watt played left and right end in preseason game against Arizona.

**Expectations:** Texans have enough talent for quick turnaround. Soft schedule and weak division should help. Season's trajectory could hinge on 31-year-old Fitzpatrick, who's on third team in three years, connecting often with star WR Andre Johnson. Pass rush could be ferocious, with Watt and Clowney attacking in cushion. Texans need RB Ariyan Foster and LB Brian Cushing to stay healthy.

— The Associated Press

## NFL PREVIEW

## AFC WEST

## Broncos remain class of the division

AFC champions will be tested by San Diego, Kansas City and challenging schedule

BY ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press

As good as any division a year ago, the AFC West is about to get tested.

Bigtime.

The AFC West sported three playoff teams last season, with late-charging San Diego and resurgent Kansas City joining Super Bowl-bound Denver in the postseason.

The path to the playoffs in 2014 has a few more potholes: The AFC West has to play the NFC West, where the Super Bowl champion Seahawks, Cardinals, Rams and 49ers boast some of the nastiest defenses the NFL has to offer.

Denver is trying to become the first team in four decades to win a Super Bowl the year after losing it, and GM John Elway suggested that facing this fearsome foursome will benefit the Broncos.

"You've got to be able to play physical with physical teams," Elway said. "And that's always a goal is to be able to have a team that physically can stay with everybody in this league. It's a tough division that's a very physical division, so that'll be a great test for us."

And for the rest of the AFC West.

Here are some things to know about the AFC West, the only division that had three playoff teams in 2013:

**No rest:** Apt Elway's wish list following that 43-8 blistering by the Seahawks in the Super Bowl was an edgier defense. Yes, like the one that had just throttled the highest-scoring team in NFL history. So, he committed more than \$100 million to add free agents DeMarcus Ware, Aqib Talib and T.J. Ward, then drafted Bradley Roby in the first round.

Denver's record-breaking offense wasn't spared, either. After throwing for more



LM OTERO/AP

Denver quarterback Peyton Manning directed a record-breaking offense last year, but the Broncos got routed in the Super Bowl. So the team tried to upgrade its defense.

yards and touchdowns than any team in NFL history, Peyton Manning had to say goodbye to wide receiver Eric Decker and running back Knowshon Moreno. Decker was replaced by Emmanuel Sanders and rookie Cody Latimer. Montee Ball moves up as the lead back, running behind a retooled line that sports 1,000 pounds of muscle in the middle with Orlando Franklin sliding over from right tackle to left guard.

**Market correction?** After a fruitful rebuilding project under new GM John Dorsey and coach Andy Reid last year, the salary cap-tapped Chiefs endured the price of that success. They watched three start-

ing offensive linemen leave on the same day in free agency: Pro Bowl left tackle Brandon Albert and guards Geoff Schwartz and Jon Asamoah. Also, Pro Bowl punt returner Dexter McCluster signed with Tennessee, and Pro Bowl cornerback Brandon Flowers was released in a cost-saving move.

So, they're counting on their rookie class to make immediate contributions to help them build off an 11-5 season that ended with a playoff collapse at Indianapolis. Still in search of their first playoff victory since 1993, the Chiefs also have to address the futures of quarterback Alex Smith and linebacker Justin Houston, two Pro Bowlers

entering the final year of their contracts.

**Quiet Chargers:** Mike McCoy was just the right fit to help turn Philip Rivers' career around. Emboldened by a stunning win in Denver in December, the Chargers won their final four games and got some big help from slumping Miami and Baltimore — and the officials — to end a three-season playoff drought. They beat the Bengals on the road in the wild-card round before losing the rematch at Denver.

After defensive breakdowns cost them the chance for another upset over the Broncos, the Chargers used three of their first four draft picks on defensive players. They're also getting Dwight Freeney back. Now 34 and entering his 13th NFL season, Freeney comes off a thigh injury that sidelined him after just four games last season, his first in San Diego.

The Broncos' offseason moves, however, might have widened the gap too much for the Chargers.

**Reclamation Raiders:** GM Reggie McKenzie enters Year 3 of trying to get old mistakes off the Raiders' books. He's hoping the route back to respectability goes through the reclamation projects he's added. Discarded or unwanted by their former teams, players with a history of success in the NFL have gathered in Oakland this year in hopes of resurrecting their careers and ending the Raiders' 11-year playoff drought.

"As a whole, we're fighting for the same thing, which is respect," said running back Maurice Jones-Drew, no longer wanted in Jacksonville. He joins fellow NFL discards Matt Schaub, Justin Tuck, LaMarr Woodley, Antonio Smith, Tarell Brown and Carlos Rogers. But it's a stretch to think they could have a similar impact as the one Jerry Rice, Rod Woodson and Bill Romanowski had in helping Oakland win the 2002 AFC title.

## Team capsules in predicted order of finish

## Denver Broncos



**New faces:** DE DeMarcus Ware, SS T.J. Ward, CB Aqib Talib, NT Marvin Austin, WR Emmanuel Sanders, rookie WR Cody Latimer, CB Bradley Roby.

**Key losses:** CB Champ Bailey, DE Shaun Phillips, WR Eric Decker, RB Knowshon Moreno, LB Wesley Woodyard, CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie.

**Strengths:** QB, OL, TE, WR, DL, DB, K, P.

**Weaknesses:** PR, RT.

**What's New:** Broncos plan to run more behind reconfigured O-line that received big boost with return of star LT Ryan Clady. On defense, Broncos committed more than \$100 million to add thumpers Ware, Talib and Ward in free agency. Plus, they're getting back LB Von Miller, S Rahim Moore, CB Chris Harris Jr., DL Derek Wolfe, FS Quinton Carter and LB Lerente McCray from injuries that sidelined them in '13.

**Expectations:** One goal: becoming first team since 1972 Dolphins to win Super Bowl year after losing it. At 38, Peyton Manning looks even better and stronger than last year, when he threw for more yards (5,447) and touchdowns (55) than any QB in NFL history. But don't be fooled: time is running out.

## Kansas City Chiefs



**New faces:** DT Vance Walker, LB Joe Mays, rookie OLB Dee Ford, WR/RB DeAnthony Thomas.

**Key losses:** LT Brandon Albert, CB Brandon Flowers, WR/PR Dexter McCluster, OG Jon Asamoah, OG Geoff

Schwartz, DT Tyson Jackson.

**Strengths:** RB, LB, DL, TE.

**Weaknesses:** OL, DB, WR.

**What's New:** Chiefs plan to use tight ends more in passing game now that Travis Kelce is healthy; he missed entire rookie season to injury. Chiefs also experimenting with blitz package featuring four pass-rushing outside linebackers in obvious passing downs, similar to "NASCAR" package used by the Seattle Seahawks and New York Giants in recent years.

**Expectations:** Chiefs surpassed all expectations and went to playoffs last season after winning twice in 2012. This year, they could be struggling just to meet increased expectations. They lost several key players in free agency and will play much more challenging schedule. Chiefs still have enough talent to return to playoffs, but need to stay healthy and have some bounces go their way to compete with the Denver Broncos for the AFC West division championship.

## San Diego Chargers



**New faces:** CB Brandon Flowers, CB Brandon Ghee, RB Donald Brown, rookie CB Jason Verrett, offensive coordinator Frank Reich.

**Key losses:** QB Charlie Whitehurst, offensive coordinator Ken Whisenunt.

**Strengths:** QB, RB, WR, TE, LB.

**Weaknesses:** DL, DB.

**What's New:** Chargers will continue to refine up-tempo offense coach Mike McCoy introduced last season, which allowed Philip Rivers to post impressive numbers and win Comeback Player of Year award. Rivers will have new offensive coordinator; Reich was promoted from QBs coach after Whisenunt was hired as Tennessee's head coach. Rivers led NFL with 69.5 completion percentage and threw for 32 TDs against 11 interceptions.

**Expectations:** Fans are back on bandwagon after Boalt ended three-year playoff drought and beat Cincinnati on road before losing in divisional round at Denver. Charges should return to playoffs, but face tough schedule, including NFC West, and have to contend with Peyton Manning and defending AFC champion Broncos twice. A deep playoff run might be year or so away.

## Oakland Raiders



**New faces:** QBs Matt Schaub and Derek Cam; LB Khalil Mack; DEs Justin Tuck and LaMarr Woodley; DT Antonio Smith; WR James Jones; RB Maurice Jones-Drew; CBs Tarell Brown and Carlos Rogers; OLs Donald

Penn, Austin Howard and Gabe Jackson.

**Key losses:** OT Jared Veldheer; DE Lamarr Houston; QB Terrelle Pryor; RB Rashad Jennings; CBs Tracy Porter and Mike Jenkins; DT Vance Walker.

**Strengths:** RB, OL, DL.


**Weaknesses:** CB, QB, TE.

**What's New:** Defensive coordinator Jason Tarter was forced to rely heavily on blitzes to pressure quarterbacks a year ago when he lacked any proven pass rushers on line. With signings of Tuck, Woodley and Smith and drafting of Mack, Tarter might be able to get pressure with four men this year to help bolster weakened secondary.

**Expectations:** After having money to spend, McKenzie put together deeper and more talented roster than he and coach Dennis Allen had in their first two seasons. But still big questions at quarterback, where Schaub has not shown last season's poor performance in Houston was aberration.

— The Associated Press

# BASEBALL

American League					Red Sox 3, Rays 0					Braves 1, Marlins 0									
East Division					Central Division					West Division					National League				
Baltimore	79	56	58	1	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0	Chicago	72	65	45	13
New York	65	51	9	0	Chicago	62	75	45	13	Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Tampa Bay	69	67	50	10	Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0
Boston	66	71	48	14	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0	Chicago	72	65	45	13
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Kansas City	68	76	44	19	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0	Chicago	72	65	45	13
Cleveland	74	62	52	3 1/2	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Oakland	77	54	1	0	Chicago	72	65	45	13
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Central Division					West Division					National League					Sunday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77	54	1	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Chicago	72	65	45	13	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Minnesota	62	77	43	15	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
West Division					National League					Sunday's Games					Monday's Games				
Los Angeles	83	53	61	0	Atlanta	72	65	45	13	Chicago	72	65	45	13	Los Angeles	83	53	61	0
Oakland	77</																		



## MLB ROUNDUP

## Angels blast A's to complete 4-game sweep

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — While the Los Angeles Angels buzzed around their clubhouse preparing for their fantasy football draft, the Oakland Athletics had their own doors locked for a grim team meeting.

California's AL West powers are headed into September in very different moods after the Angels seized control of the division race in one remarkable weekend.

Mike Trout hit his career-high 31st homer and drove in three runs, Matt Shoemaker (14-4) pitched seven shutout innings of five-hit ball, and the Angels completed a masterful four-game sweep of the A's with an 8-1 victory Sunday.

"That was a huge series for us in regards to the playoffs and the AL West, a huge series," said Shoemaker (14-4), who got his sixth win in August. "I just wanted to keep it going."

Chris Iannetta also homered and had three hits for the Angels, who took a five-game lead in the division with the best record in the majors at 83-53. Outpitching the A's vaunted staff and outbunting Oakland's usually productive lineup, Los Angeles outscored the A's 18-4 in the four-game set.

"We're having fun and we're winning ballgames, but it's still August," Trout said. "Can't get too excited yet."

Not to get a little bit stoked by their surge, which includes a six-game winning streak. They shut out the A's for 29 consecutive innings during the series, and their sell-out crowd loudly chanted "Sweep! Sweep!" as the Angels finished it off.

Trout had a two-run single during a six-run second inning for Los Angeles, which has won 15 of 19. The A's have lost 14 of 20.

"It was embarrassing. Pathetic," said A's manager Bob Melvin, who was ejected in the second inning. "We don't play like that. The last three games here were the worst I've seen this team play in. I can't remember how long I feel bad for our fans to have to watch that."

Scott Kazmir (14-7) got just four outs for the A's, and he criticized home plate umpire Gerry Davis afterward. Kazmir also claimed



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

**Los Angeles Angels' Josh Hamilton, center, has his helmet taken off by Mike Trout after scoring on a single by Erick Aybar in the second inning of Sunday's game against the Oakland Athletics in Anaheim, Calif. The AL West-leading Angels won 8-1 to sweep the four-game series from the second-place A's.**

Davis had been reprimanded by baseball officials for making a "cry-baby face" at the Oakland dugout Saturday.

Major League Baseball said it had no comment on Kazmir's assertion.

"It's important to rise above any personal issue and call a fair game," Kazmir said. "We owe it to the game to do that. We really do. And what I saw from the video, I saw 10-plus pitches that I thought were right there. I don't know if it has something to do with last night and how he got reprimanded or anything like that, but the professionalism is something that I have an issue with."

"No matter what happens on the field, some things are just unacceptable. When you constantly pitch inside and hit your spot every single time and have nothing to show for it, it's frustrating," he said.

Oakland, which led the AL West for nearly four straight months this season, now faces its biggest division deficit since May 25, 2013.

"I definitely think something needed to be said," Josh Donaldson said of the A's closed-door meeting. "This is the time of the season where you need to start playing your best. And right now, we're playing our worst."

**Indians 4, Royals 2 (10, suspended):** The race for the AL Central title got another wrinkle Sunday night when Cleveland's game at Kansas City was suspended in the 10th inning.

The Indians grabbed a 4-2 lead on pinch-hitter Lonnie Chisenhall's two-out, two-run double, but heavy rain prevented the teams from playing the bottom half of the inning. It was shelved after a 58-minute delay.

The game will resume on Sept. 22 in Cleveland before the start of the last scheduled series between the teams.

**Mariners 5, Nationals 3:** Dustin Ackley homered and drove in four runs as host Seattle averted a three-game sweep, overcoming a pair of home runs by Bryce Harper to beat Washington.

Nate Schierholz also homered for Washington. The NL East-leading Nationals hit 10 home runs in the series, one short of the Safeco Field record for a three-game set established by Cleveland in 2009.

**Orioles 12, Twins 8:** J.J. Hardy hit his fourth career grand slam during a seven-run third inning. Nelson Cruz connected for his major league-leading 35th home run and Ryan Flaherty also homered to lead host Baltimore over Minnesota.

Caleb Joseph had a career-high four hits for the Orioles, who lead the AL East lead by nine games over the Yankees.

**White Sox 6, Tigers 2:** Jose Quintana allowed two runs over seven innings to earn his first win in more than a month as host Chicago beat Detroit after rading Adam Dunn. The White Sox sent Dunn to the Oakland Athletics before the game, ending a disappointing four-year run in Chicago for the veteran slugger.

**Blue Jays 4, Yankees 3:** Jose Bautista homered for the fifth

straight game as the Toronto Blue Jays erased a three-run deficit to beat the New York Yankees.

Derek Jeter had a chance to tie it for the Yankees in the ninth inning. With the sellout crowd of 45,678 on its feet, Jeter popped up with a runner on third for the final out in his last regular-season at-bat in Toronto.

**Rays 3, Red Sox 0:** Clay Buchholz (6-8) threw a three-hitter to stop his string of seven starts without a win, leading visiting Boston over Tampa Bay.

**Astros 3, Rangers 2:** Matt Dominguez hit a tying homer and Jose Altuve's fourth hit drove in the go-ahead run as host Houston rallied in the eighth inning to beat Texas.

**Braves 1, Marlins 0:** Alex Wood struck out 12 in eight dominant innings and Evan Gattis homered to help host Atlanta beat Miami.

**Giants 15, Brewers 5:** Pablo Sandoval hit a two-run homer among his three RBIs and finished a double short of the cycle, powering host San Francisco past Milwaukee to match a season high with its sixth straight win.

**Cardinals 9, Cubs 6:** Matt Holliday hit his third home run in two games and broke an eighth-inning tie with a two-run single, rallying host St. Louis past Chicago.

**Dodgers 7, Padres 1:** Ryu Hyun-jin (14-6) came off the disabled list to pitch four-hit ball over seven innings, and Matt Kemp singled in the go-ahead run as visiting Los Angeles avoided a three-game sweep in San Diego.

**Diamondbacks 6, Rockies 2:** Chase Anderson (8-6) pitched six strong innings with a career-high eight strikeouts in Arizona's victory over visiting Colorado.

**Reds 3, Pirates 2:** Chris Heisey hit two home runs, including a tiebreaking shot in the ninth inning, and Johnny Cueto (16-8) overcame an early jog to earn his 16th win as Cincinnati beat host Pittsburgh.

**Mets 6, Phillies 5:** Anthony Recker snapped a sixth-inning tie with a three-run homer in a rare start as host New York held off Philadelphia to avoid dropping into last place.

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## SPORTS



## All four won

Kahne latest member of Hendrick team to make Chase | Page 25

NFL

# So happy together

## Increasing popularity of joint practices changing the way teams prepare in preseason

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
The Associated Press

DENVER

**T**he sight of J.J. Watt donning a baseball cap even before the Houston Texans' first defensive series was over said it all: teams are changing the way they treat the preseason.

Starters have traditionally played into the second half of the third exhibition game, a final tuneup for the regular season.

Yet, even Peyton Manning had no need for his helmet when the Denver Broncos returned to the field after halftime against the Texans on Saturday night.

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### AFC division previews inside:

- Brady, Patriots still favorites in AFC East, Page 26
- AFC North taking measured approach, Page 27
- Colts, Luck class of AFC South, Page 28
- Broncos will be tested in AFC West, Page 29

Houston Texans guard Bronson Irwin runs a drill during a joint practice with the Denver Broncos last month in Englewood, Colo. Many NFL starters saw their workload reduced in preseason games this year as intense joint practice sessions gave coaches plenty of opportunities to see their veteran players in action.

JACK DEMPSEY/AP

